PSYLOCKE
MARVEL
FINCH
CHRIS YOST • HARVEY TOLIBAO

PSYLOCKE

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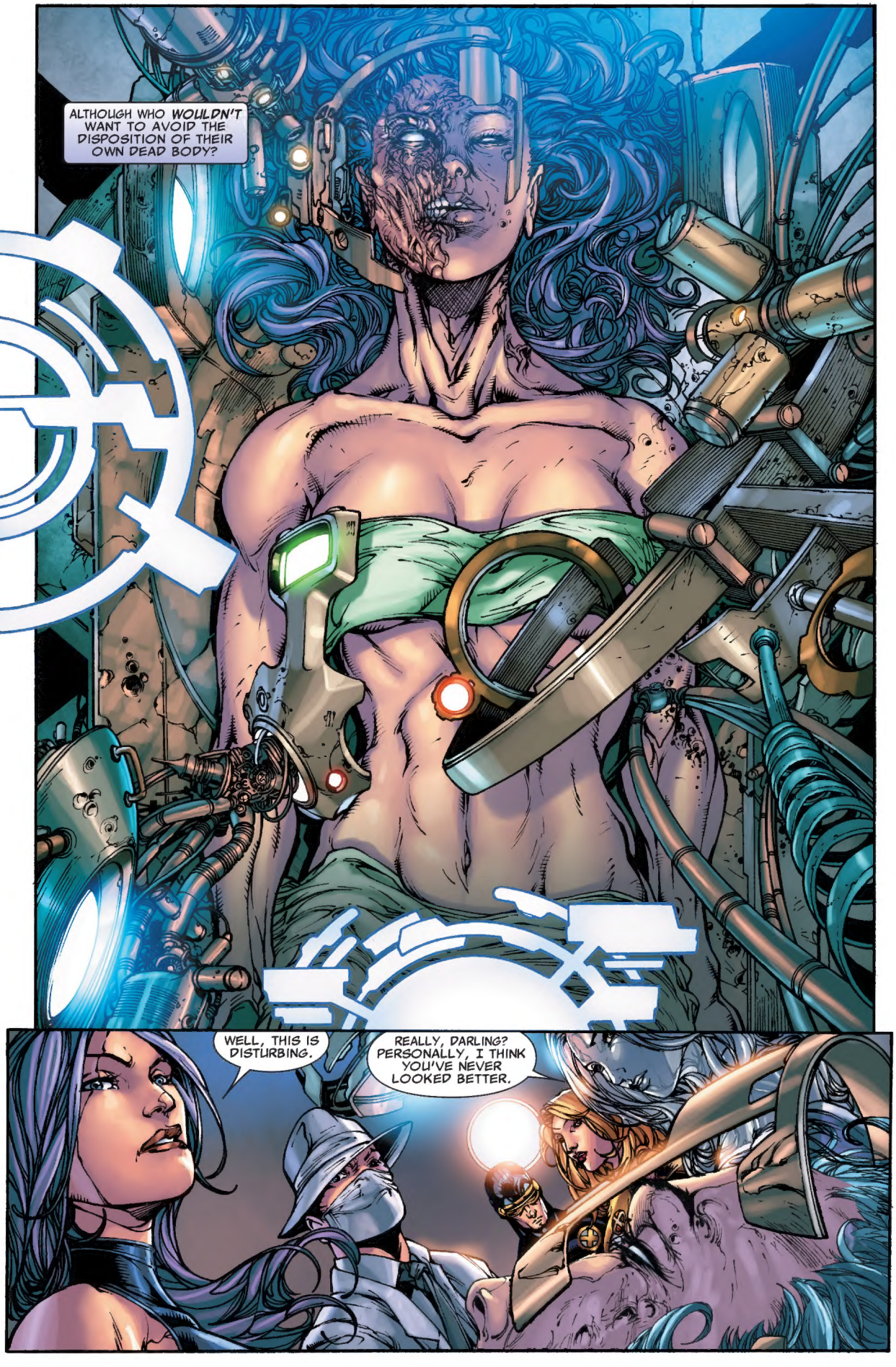
JAPAN, 17 HOURS FROM NOW.
FOR SO LONG, MY LIFE HAS BEEN OUT OF MY OWN CONTROL.
CHAOS AND SERENDIPITY, WRAPPED IN INSANITY.
I HAVE SUFFERED. I HAVE LOST.
MAKE IT QUICK.
NOT JUST MY LIFE, BUT MY VERY SOUL. MY SELF.
LIT!
BUT NO MORE.

NOW I KNOW WHO I AM.
KILL MATSU'O
CHAPTER ONE

NOW.
UTOPIA, JUST OFF THE COAST OF THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES.
"YOU HEAR ME? BACK OFF, PUNKS...OR...OR I'LL MAKE YOUR LITTLE FRIENDS HERE JUMP OFF THIS ROCK!"
THIS IS MINE! THIS SECTION OF THE ISLAND IS MINE! I CALLED IT!
WILL YOU ZAP HIM ALREADY, SURGE?!
I CAN'T! WE DON'T KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE OTHERS!
WE HAVE TO DO SOMETHING, NORI.
OKAY...ON MY MARK...MERCURY, CUT AIRHOLES FOR THE HOSTAGES. PIXIE, GET THEM TO THE SCIENCE TEAM.
AND?!
AND THEN ROCKSLIDE AND GENTLE PUNCH THIS GUY RIGHT IN HIS NAMESAKE.
UHNN!
FWASH!!
BREATHE, CHILDREN...

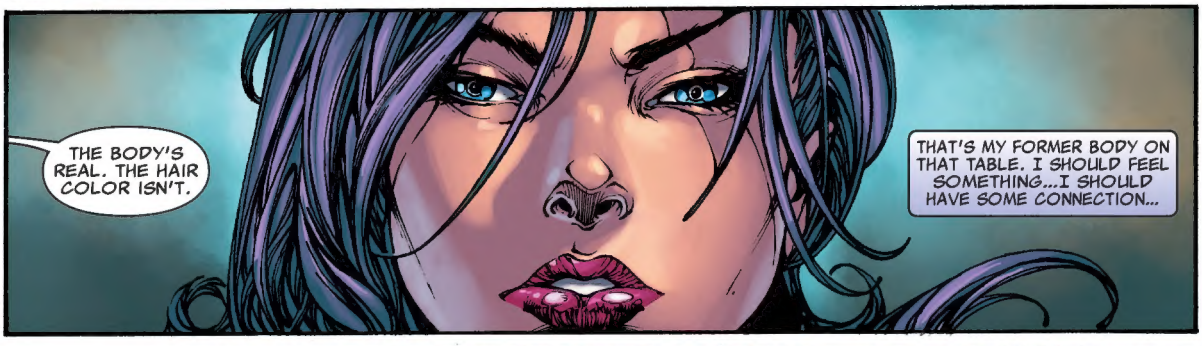
DAZZLER AND I WILL DEAL WITH SACK.
WHICH HAS TO BE THE WORST NAME EVER.
NO...NO! I WON'T LET YOU--
HURKK!
ANYTHING YOU WANT IS NOW IRRELEVANT.
FREAKING GROSS, YOU'RE COVERED IN GUNK.
SHUT... HUHH...HUUHH... UP...
HUUUAA!!

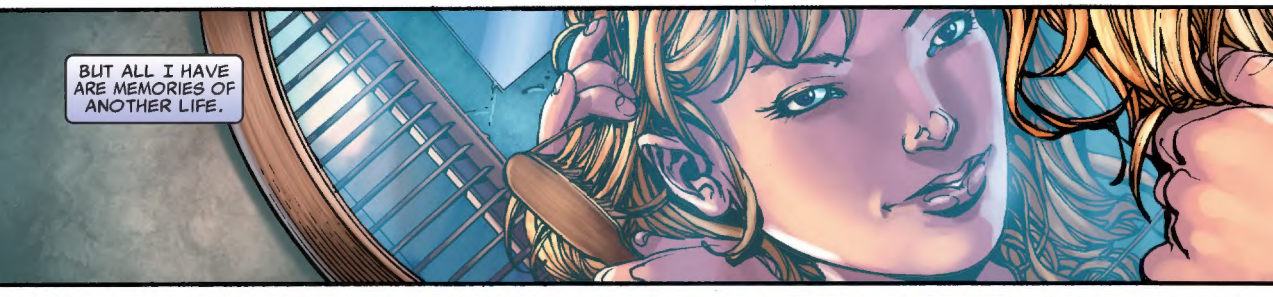
A LESSON, STUDENTS. MISTER 'SACK' HERE VERY NEARLY KILLED THREE OF YOU.
HAD HE NOT OVEREXTENDED HIMSELF, AT LEAST ONE OF YOU MIGHT BE DEAD.
AND I CAN SEE IT IN HIS MIND...HE WOULD DO IT AGAIN.
SHOULD WE NOT KILL HIM? TO AVOID A FUTURE TRAGEDY? I CAN TURN OFF HIS MIND RIGHT LIKE A SWITCH...
HNN...NNNO... PLEASE...
X-MEN DON'T KILL, PSYLOCKE.
AH. AN IDEALIST. VERY WELL, THEN, CESSILY. TAKE HIM TO THE CELLBLOCK, WILL YOU? I'D RATHER NOT TOUCH HIM.
WE COULD HAVE HANDLED HIM.
I KNOW, NORI. YOUR PLAN WAS SOUND. BUT I WAS BORED.
ANY OTHER CAGES WE CAN RATTLE HERE ON UTOPIA?
I ALMOST FEEL LIKE AN X-MAN AGAIN.
I'M GLAD YOU'RE BACK, BETSY, BUT YOU'VE BEEN AVOIDING THIS FOR TOO LONG.
I'M NOT AVOIDING ANYTHING. WE SHOULD GO INTO THE CITY AND HAVE DINNER.
BETSY! PLEASE DON'T MAKE ME SAY IT. THE WHOLE *YOU-KNOW-WHAT.*
THE B-O-D-Y.
AND AS MUCH AS I LOVE ALISON BLAIRE, RIGHT NOW I FEEL LIKE KILLING *HER.*

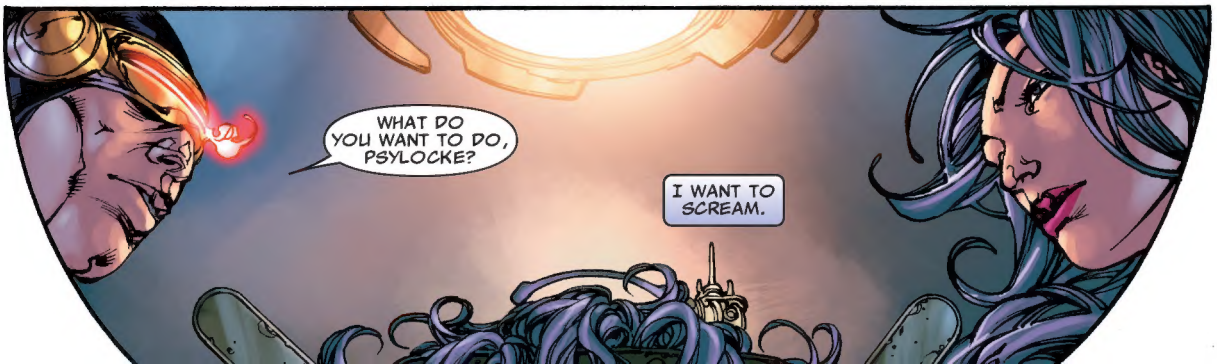

ALTHOUGH WHO WOULDN'T WANT TO AVOID THE DISPOSITION OF THEIR OWN DEAD BODY?
WELL, THIS IS DISTURBING.
REALLY, DARLING? PERSONALLY, I THINK YOU'VE NEVER LOOKED BETTER.

YOU'RE LUCKY YOU'RE STUCK IN THAT DIAMOND FORM, EMMA, OTHERWISE YOU'D HAVE A MATCHING COMPLEXION. AND I WOULDN'T FEEL HALF AS BAD ABOUT IT.
ALISON BURNING MY FACE OFF WASN'T PERSONAL. I WASN'T MYSELF AT THE TIME.

EMMA, I IGNORE. HER BITING WIT IS AMUSING ENOUGH... BUT SHE'S TRANSPARENT IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE NOW.
SO MUCH HAS CHANGED.
DR. NEMESIS...
A MATCH, RIGHT DOWN TO THE DNA. THERE WAS AN OLD SCAN THAT McCOY DID A WHILE BACK.

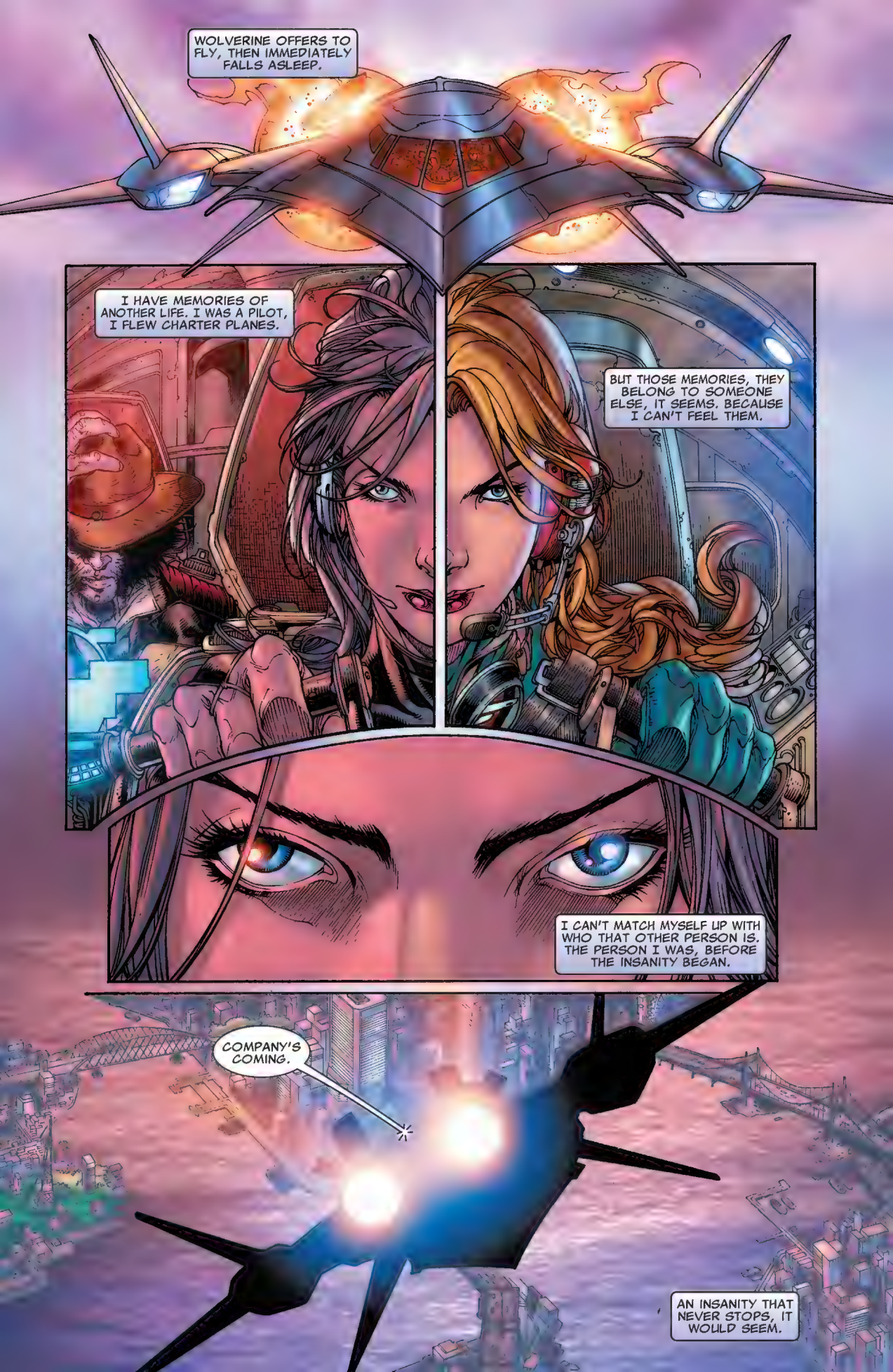

THE BODY'S REAL. THE HAIR COLOR ISN'T.
THAT'S MY FORMER BODY ON THAT TABLE. I SHOULD FEEL SOMETHING...I SHOULD HAVE SOME CONNECTION...

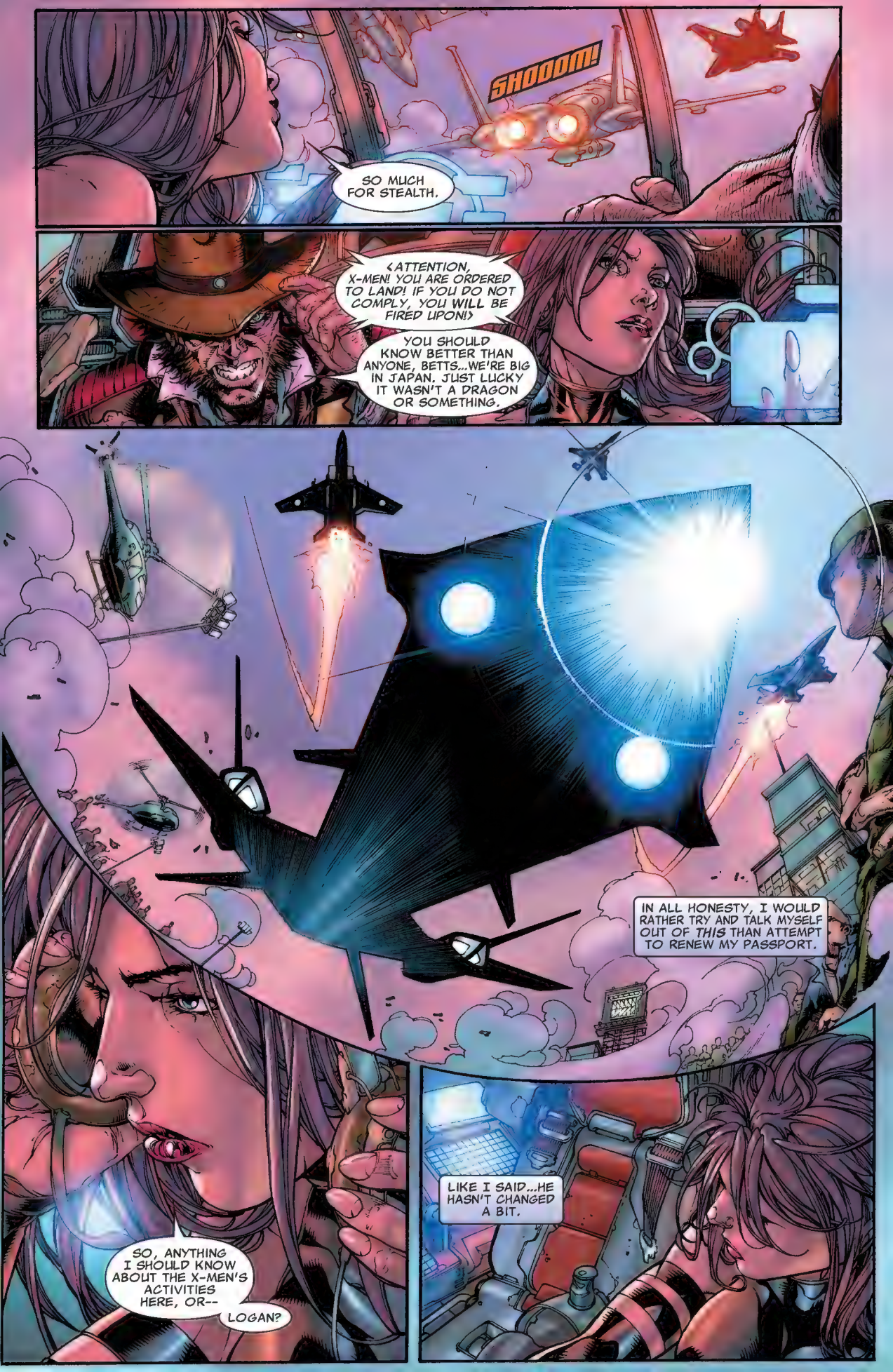

BUT ALL I HAVE ARE MEMORIES OF ANOTHER LIFE.


WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO, PSYLOCKE?
I WANT TO SCREAM.

PIXIE COULD TELEPORT YOU.
THE WELSHIE? I APPRECIATE THAT, BUT NO.
IGNORE WHATEVER YOU'VE HEARD, SHE'S GOTTEN PRETTY GOOD.
HONESTLY, SCOTT...I COULD USE THE TIME.
A LOT HAS CHANGED. I HAVE TO REMEMBER WHAT NORMAL IS.
CHANGE IS THE ONLY NORMAL NOW.
BETSY...I'M GLAD YOU'RE BACK. SO PLEASE...TRY NOT TO DISAPPEAR AGAIN.
I'LL DO MY BEST.

COME TO SEE ME OFF, HAVE YOU?
THOUGHT I'D CATCH A RIDE.
IS THAT IT? OR ARE YOU KEEPING AN EYE ON ME?
I TRUST YOU MORE THAN MOST.
I'VE GOT SOME BUSINESS IN JAPAN. NOTHING MORE.
NOTHIN' YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT, DARLIN'.
WHAT KIND OF BUSINESS?
YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT.

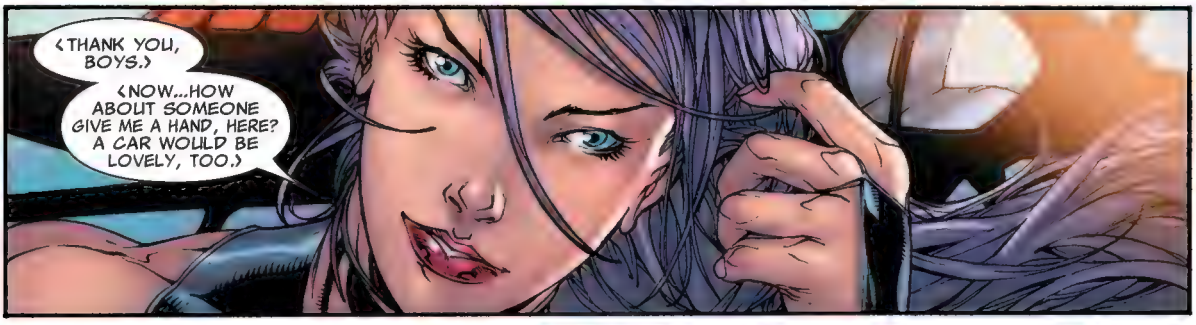

WOLVERINE OFFERS TO FLY, THEN IMMEDIATELY FALLS ASLEEP.
I HAVE MEMORIES OF ANOTHER LIFE. I WAS A PILOT, I FLEW CHARTER PLANES.
BUT THOSE MEMORIES, THEY BELONG TO SOMEONE ELSE, IT SEEMS. BECAUSE I CAN'T FEEL THEM.
I CAN'T MATCH MYSELF UP WITH WHO THAT OTHER PERSON IS. THE PERSON I WAS, BEFORE THE INSANITY BEGAN.
COMPANY'S COMING.
AN INSANITY THAT NEVER STOPS, IT WOULD SEEM.

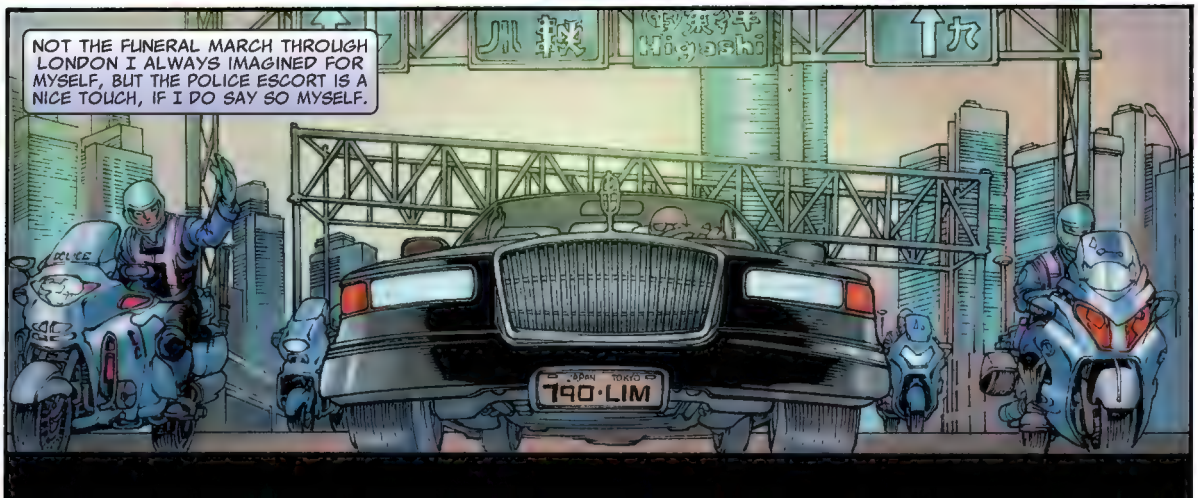

SHOOOM!
SO MUCH FOR STEALTH.
‹ATTENTION, X-MEN! YOU ARE ORDERED TO LAND! IF YOU DO NOT COMPLY, YOU WILL BE FIRED UPON!›
YOU SHOULD KNOW BETTER THAN ANYONE, BETTS...WE'RE BIG IN JAPAN. JUST LUCKY IT WASN'T A DRAGON OR SOMETHING.
IN ALL HONESTY, I WOULD RATHER TRY AND TALK MYSELF OUT OF THIS THAN ATTEMPT TO RENEW MY PASSPORT.
LIKE I SAID...HE HASN'T CHANGED A BIT.
SO, ANYTHING I SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE X-MEN'S ACTIVITIES HERE, OR--
LOGAN?

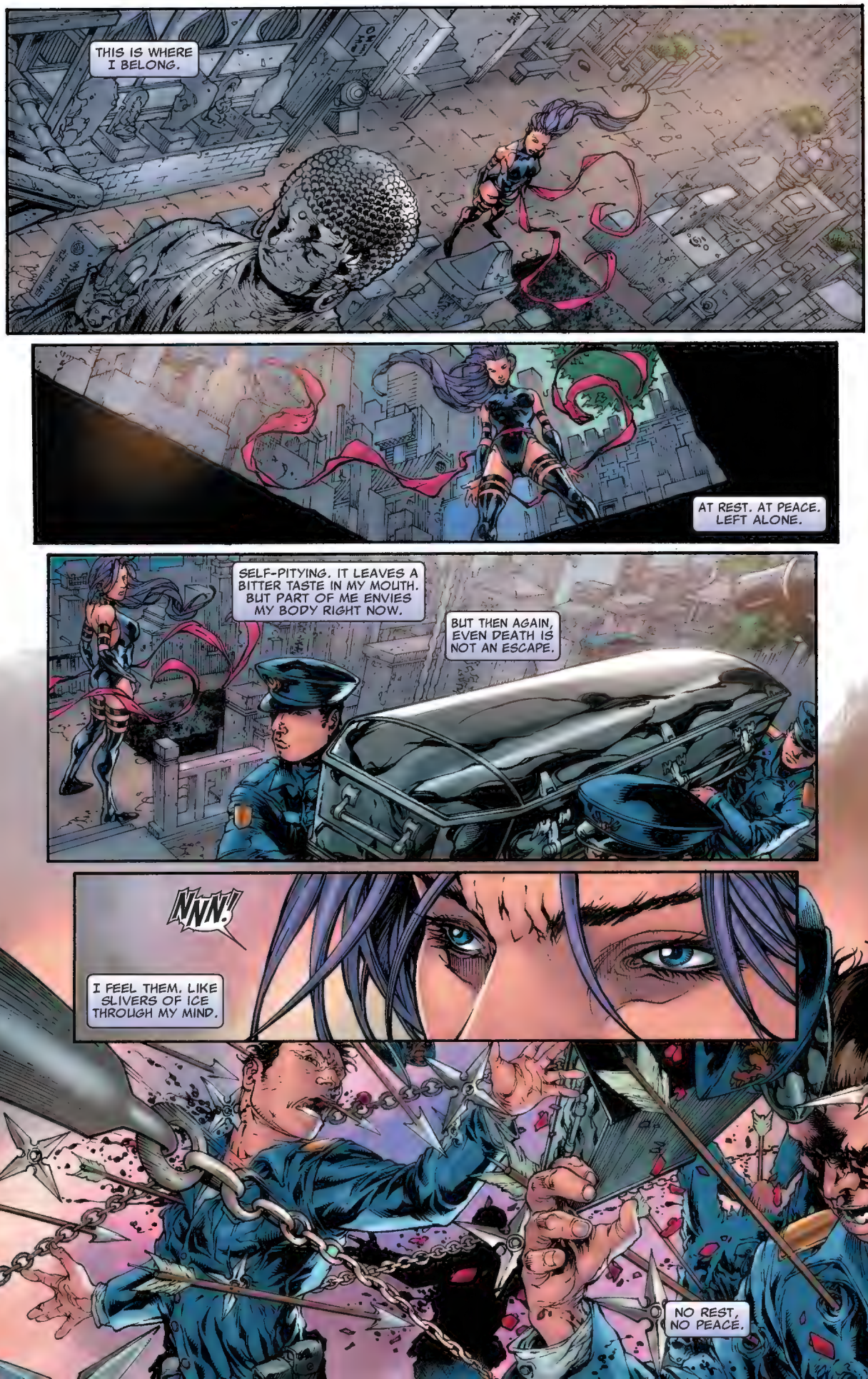
‹FREEZE!›
‹I'M SORRY, GENTLEMEN...IS THERE A PROBLEM HERE?›
‹YOUR CRAFT... IT BELONGS TO THE X-MEN.›
‹THE X-MEN ARE NOT WELCOME IN JAPAN.›
‹MUTATION WAS PURGED FROM JAPAN AFTER M-DAY. THE FEW EXCEPTIONS WORK FOR THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT.›
‹I AM SIMPLY TRYING TO--›
‹NO. WE SEE THE CHAOS AND STRIFE THAT MUTANTS ARE CAUSING IN AMERICA. YOU HAVE YOUR ISLAND... STAY ON IT.›
‹WAIT... THAT IS NOT POSSIBLE...›
‹SERGEANT...THIS WOMAN...I KNOW HER FACE! HER NAME IS KWANNON! SHE IS AN ASSASSIN! A KNOWN CRIMINAL...›
I'VE ALSO SAVED THE WORLD, ON LIVE TELEVISION... BUT THAT WAS A DIFFERENT LIFE. A DIFFERENT BODY, A DIFFERENT FACE.
SO MUCH FOR SIMPLE.

HT!
HNN!
MY TELEPATHY ISN'T WHAT IT WAS, BUT IT'S ENOUGH.
ENOUGH TO SUGGEST THAT I'M SIMPLY HERE TO PAY MY RESPECTS TO THE DEAD, AND THAT I SHOULD BE LEFT ALONE.

‹STAND DOWN! THIS IS A SIMPLE MISUNDERSTANDING...›
‹STAND DOWN!! LET THE LADY THROUGH!›
THE POLICE CHIEF AND SERGEANT ARE MY FOCUS, BUT I PUSH ENOUGH SOLDIERS SO THAT THE OTHERS WILL FOLLOW SUIT.


‹THANK YOU, BOYS.›
‹NOW...HOW ABOUT SOMEONE GIVE ME A HAND, HERE? A CAR WOULD BE LOVELY, TOO.›


NOT THE FUNERAL MARCH THROUGH LONDON I ALWAYS IMAGINED FOR MYSELF, BUT THE POLICE ESCORT IS A NICE TOUCH, IF I DO SAY SO MYSELF.
Higashi
POLICE
JAPAN TOKYO
790·LIM


THIS IS WHERE I BELONG.
AT REST. AT PEACE. LEFT ALONE.
SELF-PITYING. IT LEAVES A BITTER TASTE IN MY MOUTH. BUT PART OF ME ENVIES MY BODY RIGHT NOW.
BUT THEN AGAIN, EVEN DEATH IS NOT AN ESCAPE.
NNN!
I FEEL THEM. LIKE SLIVERS OF ICE THROUGH MY MIND.
NO REST, NO PEACE.

NO ESCAPE. NOT EVEN IN DEATH.

THEIR MINDS ARE LIKE QUICKSILVER... THEY EITHER HAVE PSYCHIC DEFENSES, OR SOMETHING ELSE...SOMETHING MYSTICAL.
WHY WOULD THE HAND BE HERE, NOW? I CONSIDER ASKING THEM...
...BUT HONESTLY, I DON'T CARE.
THIS IS WHAT THEY WANT.
AIIEE!!
HURK!
UHNN!!
LUCKILY, IT'S WHAT I WANT, TOO.

KTANG!
SOMETHING TO FIGHT.
GAAII--
CHOK!
SOMETHING TO HURT.
AAAAH!!
SLIK!!
SOMETHING TO KEEP MY MIND OCCUPIED, SO I DON'T HAVE TO THINK ABOUT ANYTHING.
THE SHURIKEN WOULD HAVE MISSED, EVEN IF I HADN'T DUCKED.
SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT.
HUKK!!

THEY'RE NOT TRYING TO KILL ME.
BUT THEN WHAT--?
THIS MAKES NO SENSE... WHY WOULD THE HAND BE AFTER THE BODY? IT WAS HERE BEFORE, THEY COULD HAVE HAD IT ANY TIME--
YAAA!
VMM!
WHAT IS THAT?
DEAR GOD. NO.
NO!!

FWOOOSH!

〈YOU ARE WELCOMED BACK TO JAPAN, ELIZABETH BRADDOCK.〉
〈MATSU'O TSURAYABA SENDS HIS REGARDS.〉
THIS IS WHO I WAS.
A LAST LINK TO MY LIFE.
GONE.

A LIFE THAT WAS RIPPED AWAY FROM ME A LONG TIME AGO BY ONE MAN. A MAN I THOUGHT I HAD MADE MY PEACE WITH.
I WAS WRONG.
WHATEVER MERCY I HAD LEFT IN ME BURNED AWAY WITH THAT BODY. WHATEVER VESTIGES OF ELIZABETH BRADDOCK THAT WOULD SPARE HIM AGAIN ARE GONE.
BECAUSE NOW?
MATSU'O TSURAYABA IS GOING TO DIE.

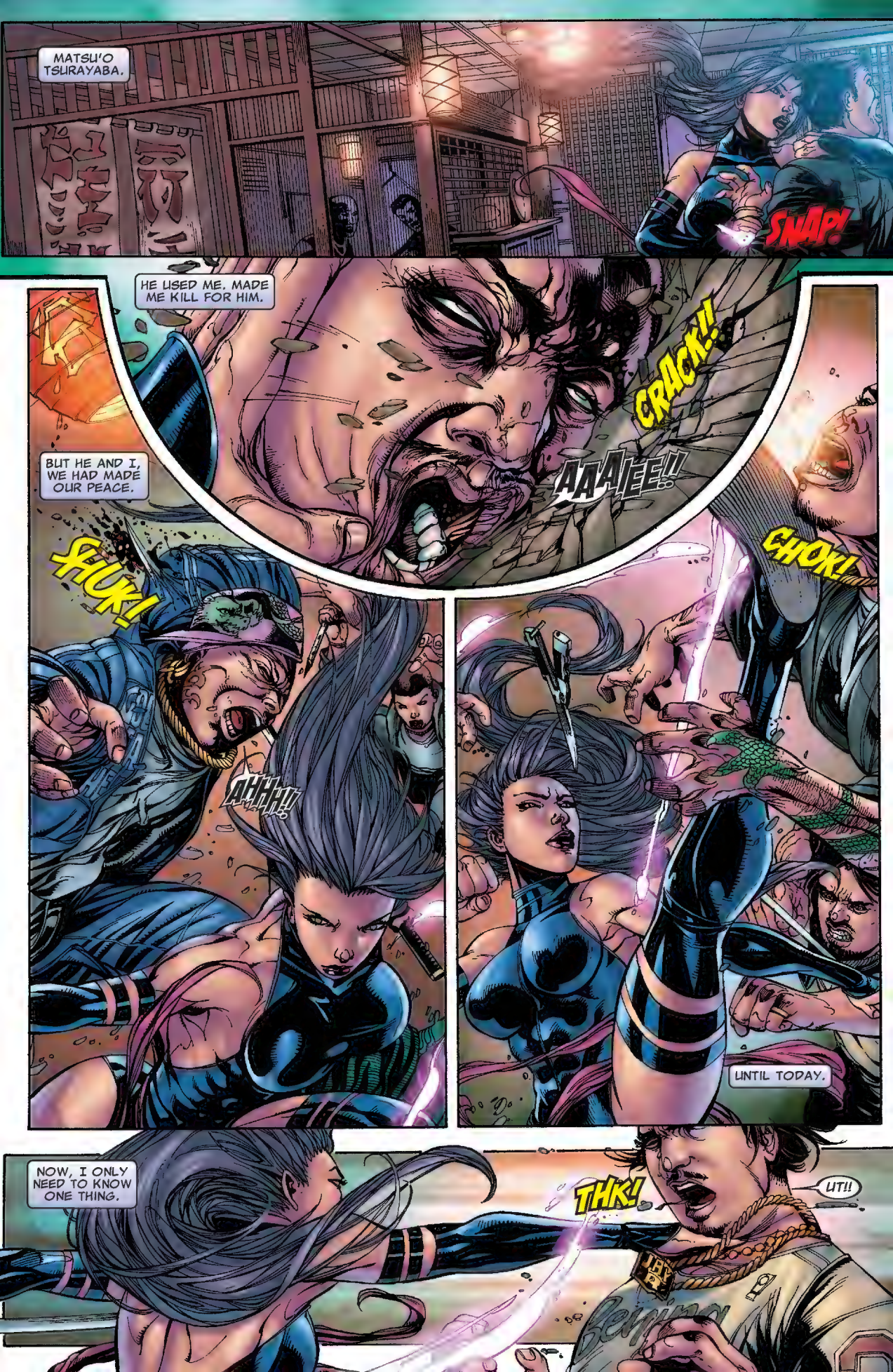
•FINCH•
2009

DUBAI, SAUDI ARABIA.
48 HOURS AGO.
DING!
PENTHOUSE LEVEL. ACCESS GRANTED.
NO...
FAHD ALIREZA...
MATSU'O TSURAYABA SENDS--
PLEASE...
SHK!
--HIS REGARDS.
-HK--

FSHHHHH--
KA-BOOM
MATSU'O.

ONCE UPON A TIME, I TRIED TO SAVE THE X-MEN.
I PAID THE PRICE.
I WASHED ASHORE IN JAPAN, WHERE I WAS FOUND BY THE HAND.
I WAS BROUGHT BEFORE A MAN NAMED MATSU'O TSURAYABA.
OUR LIVES HAVE BEEN INTERTWINED EVER SINCE.

MATSU'O USED A COMBINATION OF TECHNOLOGY, HAND BLACK MAGIC AND MY OWN POWERS TO TRANSFORM ME.
HE WAS TRYING TO BRING HIS LOVER BACK TO LIFE. BUT HE COULDN'T...KWANNON'S MIND WAS GONE. SO HE REMADE HER OUT OF ME.
WHAT HE DID WAS EVIL, BUT HE DID IT FOR LOVE.
FOR A TIME, I WAS KWANNON IN MIND, BODY AND SPIRIT.
IT WAS WOLVERINE WHO BROUGHT ME BACK. I SAW MYSELF IN HIS MIND, AND IT RESTORED ME...HIS MEMORIES TOLD ME WHO I WAS.
BUT MY ORIGINAL BODY WAS GONE, IT SEEMED. I HAD KWANNON'S BODY, AND AS IT TURNED OUT, SHE HAD MINE.
AND THEN, IN MY BODY, KWANNON DIED.
MATSU'O GRIEVED HIS LOVE.
AND HE AND I PARTED WAYS. UNTIL HE HAD MY BODY BURNT TO ASH RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME.
UNTIL HE BURNED AWAY MY LAST CONNECTION TO MY FORMER LIFE.


MATSU'O TSURAYABA.
SNAP!
HE USED ME. MADE ME KILL FOR HIM.
CRACK!!
AAAIEE!!
BUT HE AND I, WE HAD MADE OUR PEACE.
SHUK!
AHHH!!
CHOK!
UNTIL TODAY.
NOW, I ONLY NEED TO KNOW ONE THING.
THK!
UT!!

THE 77 CLUB.
TOKYO, JAPAN.
NOW.
<<WHERE IS MATSU'O TSURAYABA?!>>
KILL MATSU'O
CHAPTER TWO

THIS ONE. HE KNOWS.
I ASK HIM POLITELY.
THUD!
HURK!
AND EVENTUALLY, HE TELLS ME.
I PULL THE INFORMATION FROM HIS MIND TO VERIFY IT...MATSU'O IS HOLED UP IN THE COUNTRYSIDE.
HE'S EXPECTING TROUBLE, THE THUG KNOWS.
AND THAT IS THE UNDERSTATEMENT OF THE YEAR.

THE KABUKIHO DISTRICT, TOKYO.
SPLISH!
‹PLEASE... DO NOT HURT ME...›
‹YOU WANT TO LIVE THROUGH THIS, BUB?›
‹THEN KEEP 'EM COMING.›

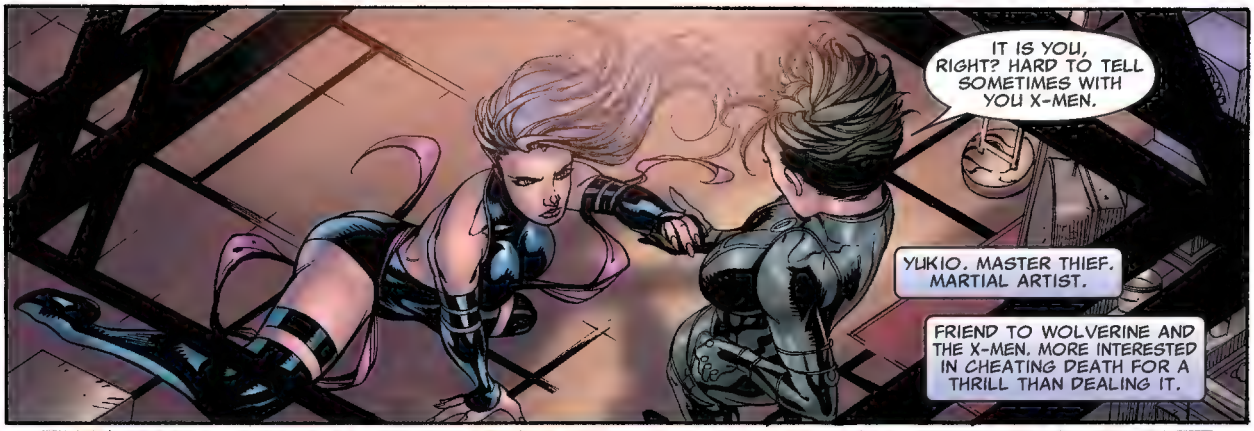
IT IS AS IF I AM HAUNTED.
HAUNTED BY A LIFE LONG DEAD.
A LIFE TAKEN FROM ME BY ONE MAN...
...MATSU'O.
TONIGHT, I LAY MY GHOSTS TO REST.

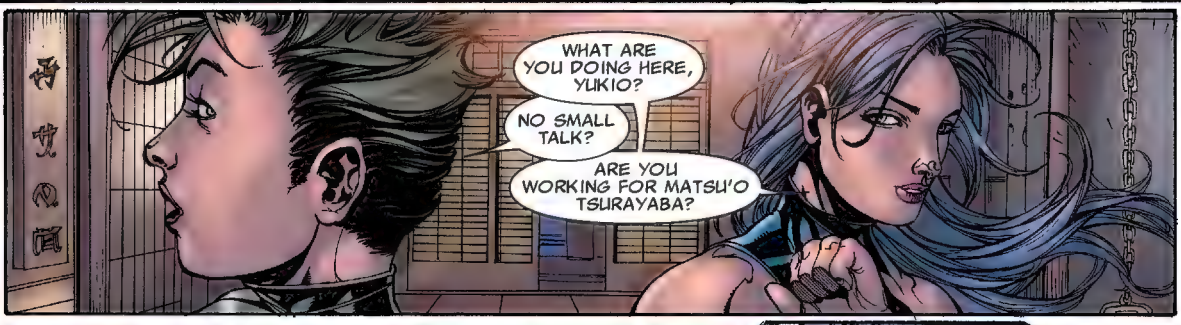
‹--DO YOU COPY?›
HUR... HURR...
‹POSITION TWO, RESPOND.›
HUKK... HK...
‹OKAMURA, REPORT!! SOMEBODY SAY SOMETHING!!›
-HNN--‹
‹MATSU'O...›
‹SPEAK.›
‹...SOMEONE IS HERE.›
‹I UNDERSTAND.›

‹ARE YOU LISTENING?›
WE HAD MADE OUR PEACE, MATSU'O.
FOR ALL THAT YOU HAD DONE TO ME, I HAD FORGIVEN YOU.
I WILL NOT FORGIVE YOU FOR THIS.
I WOULD EXPECT NOTHING LESS, ELISABETH.
YOU OF ALL PEOPLE SHOULD KNOW WHERE TO FIND ME.
AND THEN I SENSE IT... THOUGHTS TOO FAST TO CATCH. A SENSE OF EXCITEMENT, OF THRILL.
WHAM!!
UHN!!
YOU...

‹GET UP, ASSASSIN. LET'S HAVE SOME--›
‹--FUN?›
PSYLOCKE? WELL, THIS IS AWKWARD. HAD I KNOWN YOU WERE ALIVE, I WOULDN'T HAVE KICKED YOU IN THE FACE.
ARE YOU HERE TO HELP?
YUKIO.

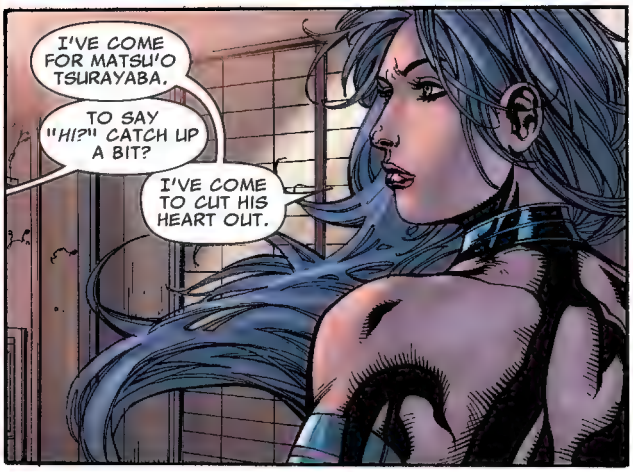
TWELVE HOURS AGO.
‹...CRASHED JUST MINUTES AGO AFTER LOSING CONTACT WITH THE SMALL JET.›
‹THERE IS STILL NO REPORT OF SURVIVORS. THE PRIVATE JET IS REGISTERED FROM SAUDI ARABIA, BUT--›
‹LOOK!›
‹...SOMEONE EMERGING FROM THE WRECKAGE... A SURVIVOR...›
‹...SEE IF WE CAN ZOOM IN...›
REC
PLANT
‹WAIT...I DON'T UNDERSTAND, WHAT IS--›
REC


IT IS YOU, RIGHT? HARD TO TELL SOMETIMES WITH YOU X-MEN.
YUKIO. MASTER THIEF. MARTIAL ARTIST.
FRIEND TO WOLVERINE AND THE X-MEN. MORE INTERESTED IN CHEATING DEATH FOR A THRILL THAN DEALING IT.


WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, YUKIO?
NO SMALL TALK?
ARE YOU WORKING FOR MATSU'O TSURAYABA?

WHAT? NO... I'M HERE AS A FAVOR, THOUGHT YOU WERE HERE FOR THE SAME REASON.
STARTING TO THINK I'M WRONG.

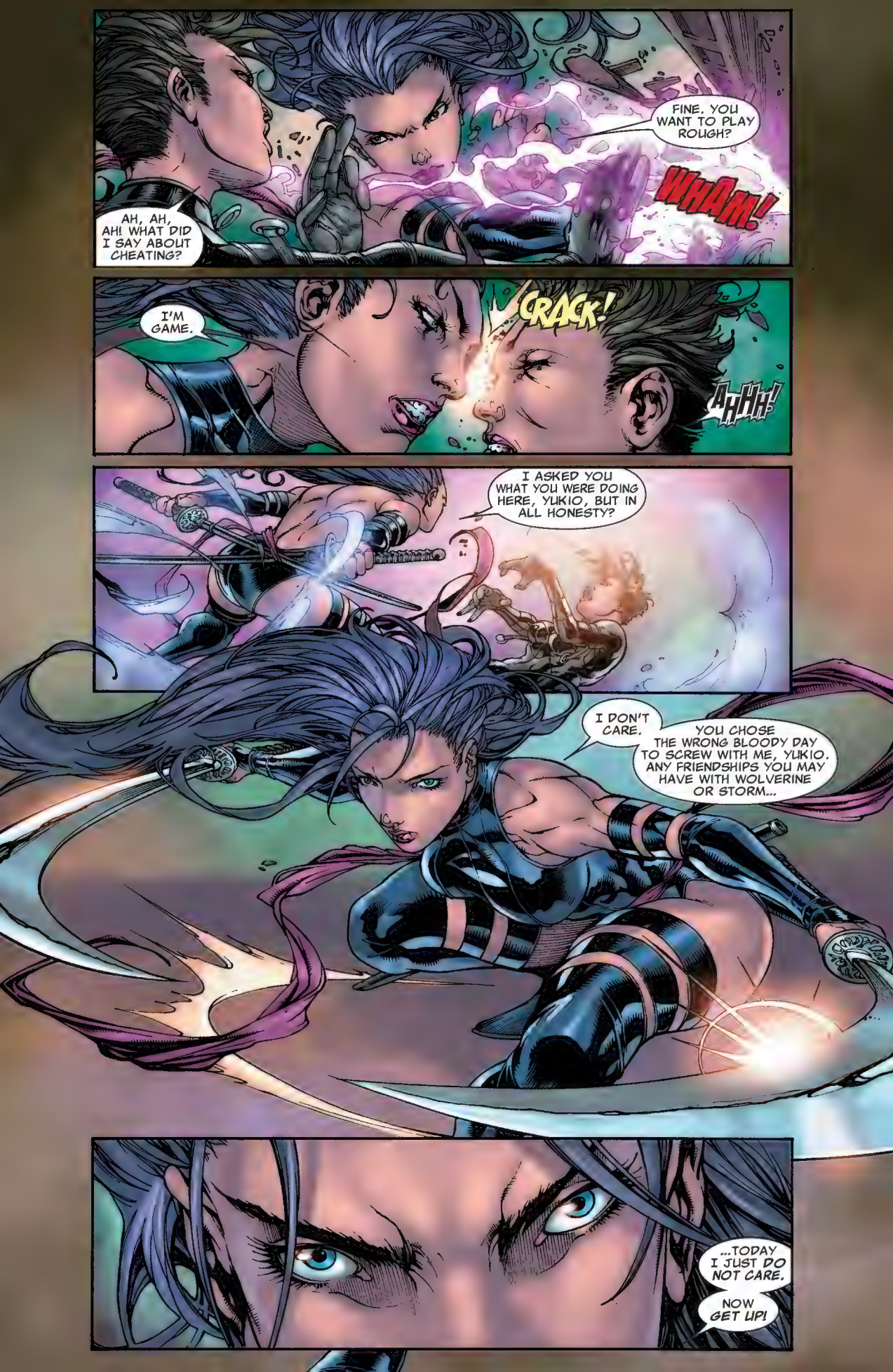
LOOK AT YOU...ON EDGE, CLAWS OUT...ALL THAT RAGE...
MAYBE THE BETTER QUESTION IS: WHAT ARE *YOU* DOING HERE?


I'VE COME FOR MATSU'O TSURAYABA.
TO SAY "*HI?*" CATCH UP A BIT?
I'VE COME TO CUT HIS HEART OUT.

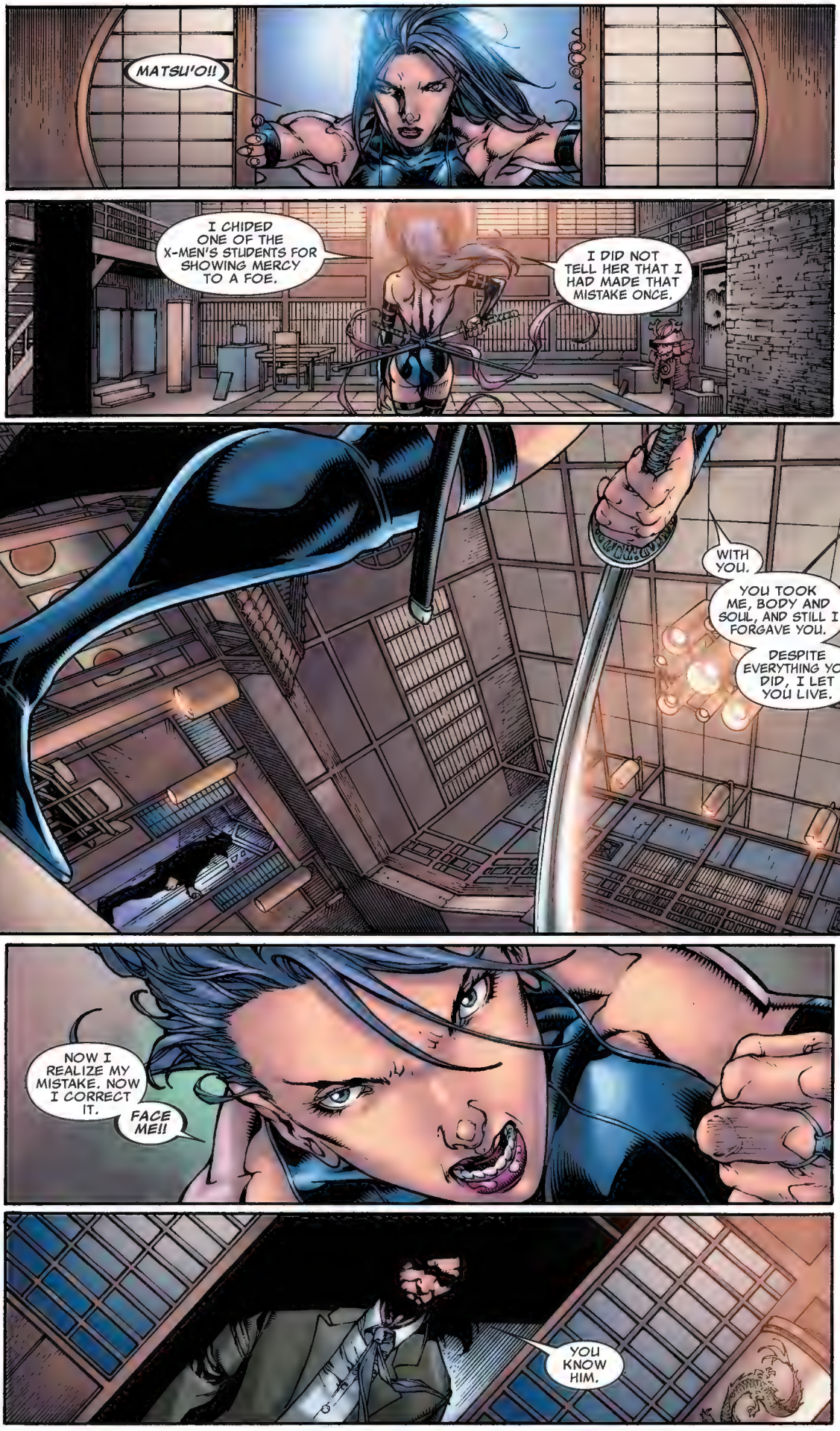
WELL, THEN. THAT CHANGES EVERYTHING.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, YUKIO?
STOPPING YOU FROM KILLING MATSU'O.
ENOUGH GAMES. IF YOU WON'T TELL ME WHY YOU'RE HERE--
--YOU'LL TAKE THE ANSWER FROM ME? THAT'S CHEATING.
BUT FEEL FREE. MY MIND'S AN OPEN BOOK.
I CAN FEEL IT...HER DEFENSES GO DOWN. AND IN HER MIND, I SEE--
LOGAN?
MATSU'O?!
YUKIO? WHAT IS--
SUCKER.
FWASH!

THE ANCESTRAL HOME OF CLAN YASHIDA.

IT'S ALL A GAME TO YUKIO.
SHE MAY PLAY FOR THE THRILL...
...BUT SHE CERTAINLY PLAYS FOR KEEPS.
UFF!
HUP!
UGHN!
IF YUKIO IS TRYING NOT TO HURT ME, SHE'S DOING A BRILLIANT JOB OF HIDING IT.
SHE DOESN'T GIVE ME A SECOND TO THINK, BECAUSE SHE KNOWS THAT IF SHE DOES...
HNN!
HUT!
...THEN THIS FIGHT IS OVER.


FINE. YOU WANT TO PLAY ROUGH?
WHAM!
AH, AH, AH! WHAT DID I SAY ABOUT CHEATING?
I'M GAME.
CRACK!
AHHH!
I ASKED YOU WHAT YOU WERE DOING HERE, YUKIO, BUT IN ALL HONESTY?
I DON'T CARE.
YOU CHOSE THE WRONG BLOODY DAY TO SCREW WITH ME, YUKIO. ANY FRIENDSHIPS YOU MAY HAVE WITH WOLVERINE OR STORM...
...TODAY I JUST DO NOT CARE.
NOW GET UP!

WHUFF!
BRADDOCK, THIS ISN'T YOU! YOU DON'T WANT TO--EH?
THUD!
HK!
THOK!
RRRA--
HURK--!!
WHAM!
YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHO I AM.


MATSU'O!!
I CHIDED ONE OF THE X-MEN'S STUDENTS FOR SHOWING MERCY TO A FOE.
I DID NOT TELL HER THAT I HAD MADE THAT MISTAKE ONCE.
WITH YOU.
YOU TOOK ME, BODY AND SOUL, AND STILL I FORGAVE YOU.
DESPITE EVERYTHING YOU DID, I LET YOU LIVE.
NOW I REALIZE MY MISTAKE. NOW I CORRECT IT.
FACE ME!!
YOU KNOW HIM.

WHERE IS MATSU'O TSURAYABA?
...EXCUSE ME?
NO.

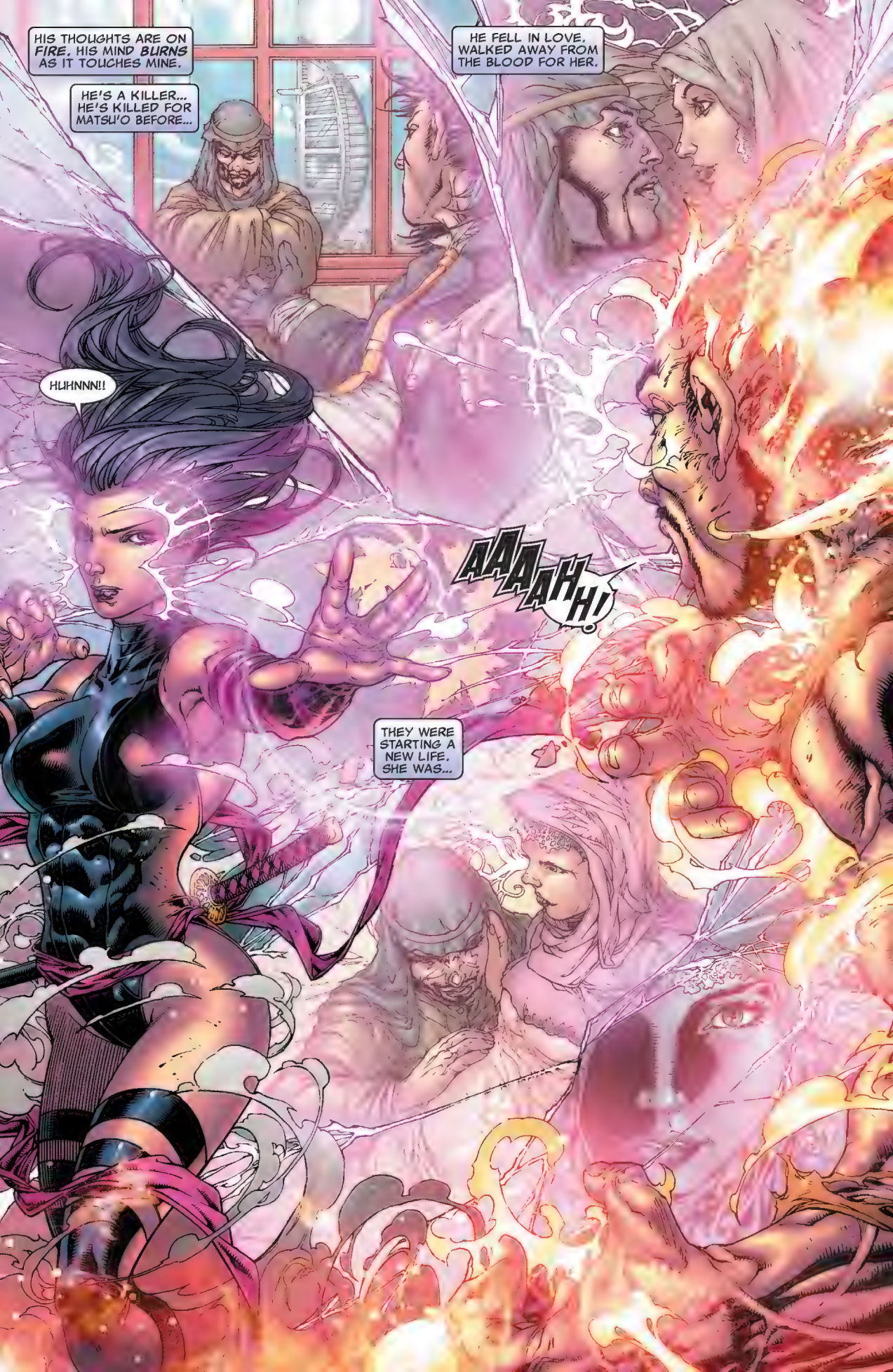
FINCH
2009

THAILAND.
TWO YEARS AGO.
"YOUR ACTIONS HAVE GREATLY DISPLEASED THE HAND, GENERAL.
"DISPLEASING THE HAND IS AN UNWISE DECISION."
‹PLEASE... I WILL GIVE YOU ANYTHING YOU WANT... I HAVE THE MONEY...›
I HAVE YOUR MONEY, GENERAL. WHAT I WANT FROM YOU IS A CAUTIONARY TALE FOR YOUR REPLACEMENT.
KILL HIM.
AS YOU WISH, MATSU'O TSURAYABA.
FWOO-SH!!
AAIEEEE!!!
YOU ARE A TALENTED CREATURE, JINN. THE HAND THANKS YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE.
I MAY CALL ON YOU AGAIN.

KILL MATSU'O
CHAPTER THREE

THE ENTIRE ESTATE EXPLODES AROUND ME. BUT THE FLAMES CAN'T TOUCH ME.
THE HEAT, HOWEVER, IS LETHAL.
THIS MAN...HE'S NOT HUMAN. NOT MUTANT, EITHER.
ENOUGH.

HOW DID YOU DO THAT?
WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH MATSU'O TSURAYABA?
HIS DEATH.
UNDERSTANDABLE. BUT WHY?
YOU KNOW HIM. WHERE IS HE?
I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS.
HIS THOUGHTS ARE GUARDED...
...BUT THIS SCREAMS OUT...A WOMAN...NO, HIS WIFE, MURDERED BY...
GOOD LORD, HIS THOUGHTS...


HIS THOUGHTS ARE ON FIRE. HIS MIND BURNS AS IT TOUCHES MINE.
HE'S A KILLER... HE'S KILLED FOR MATSU'O BEFORE...
HE FELL IN LOVE. WALKED AWAY FROM THE BLOOD FOR HER.
HUHNNN!!
AAAAHH!
THEY WERE STARTING A NEW LIFE. SHE WAS...

NO!! STAY OUT OF MY MIND!
SHE WAS PREGNANT. YOUR WIFE...
AND MATSU'O KILLED HER.
YOU MAY NOT SPEAK OF HER!
JINN, PLEASE...MY NAME IS PSYLOCKE, AND YOU HAVE TO LISTEN TO ME!
MATSU'O IS--
TELL ME WHERE HE IS!!
TELL ME!!!
HN!!
"PSYLOCKE," YOU SAY? NO...I THINK NOT.
YOU DO NOT KNOW WHO YOU ARE, ELISABETH BRADDOCK...I SAW IT IN YOUR MIND, WHEN YOU STOLE MY THOUGHTS. BUT I DID SEE YOUR DESIRE FOR DEATH, AND AM MORE THAN HAPPY TO...TO...

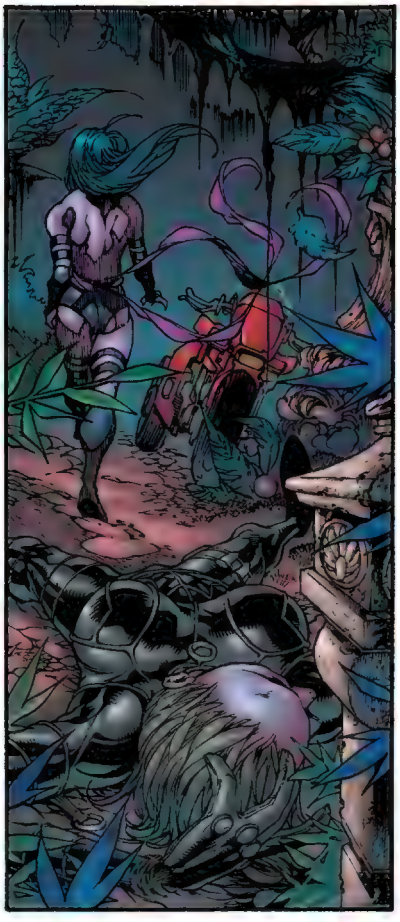
YOU KNOW WHERE HE IS.
YOU WISH HIM DEAD AS WELL, AND YOU KNOW WHERE HE IS! I SAW IT IN YOUR--
--HNNN!!!
LISTEN TO ME VERY CLOSELY. MATSU'O IS NOT YOURS TO KILL.
NOW I HAVE NOTHING BUT SYMPATHY FOR WHAT HE HAS DONE TO YOU, FOR WHAT HE TOOK FROM YOU, BUT I CANNOT ALLOW YOU TO DO THIS.
GET... OUT...OF MY MIND!!!

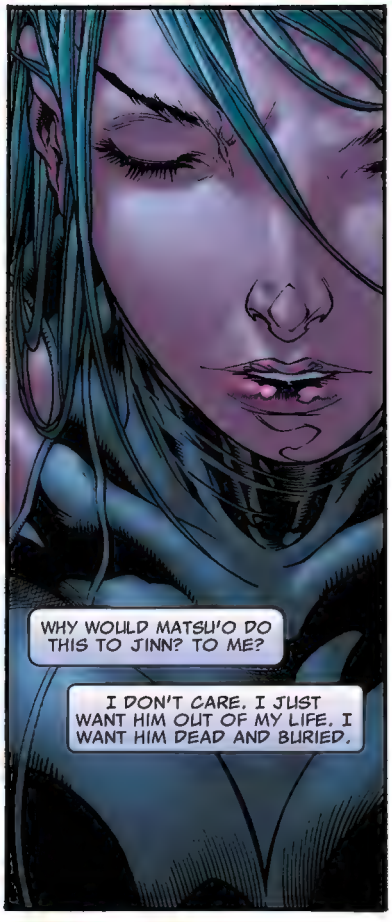
UHN!!
I DO NOT CARE ABOUT YOU. DO YOU UNDERSTAND ME? I DO NOT CARE!
MATSU'O IS GOING TO BURN FOR WHAT HE HAS DONE, BUT IF YOU STAND IN MY WAY...
...YOU WILL BURN TOO.
HNNN...WOW... HE LOOKS LIKE A GOOD TIME. BUT YOU SAW HIM FIRST, BRADDOCK.
UNLESS BEING DEAD TOOK AWAY ALL YOUR PASSION FOR--
JINN DOESN'T CARE ABOUT ME? HONESTLY, I DON'T EITHER.
AND I CERTAINLY DON'T CARE ABOUT YUKIO.
CRACK!
-UHNN--

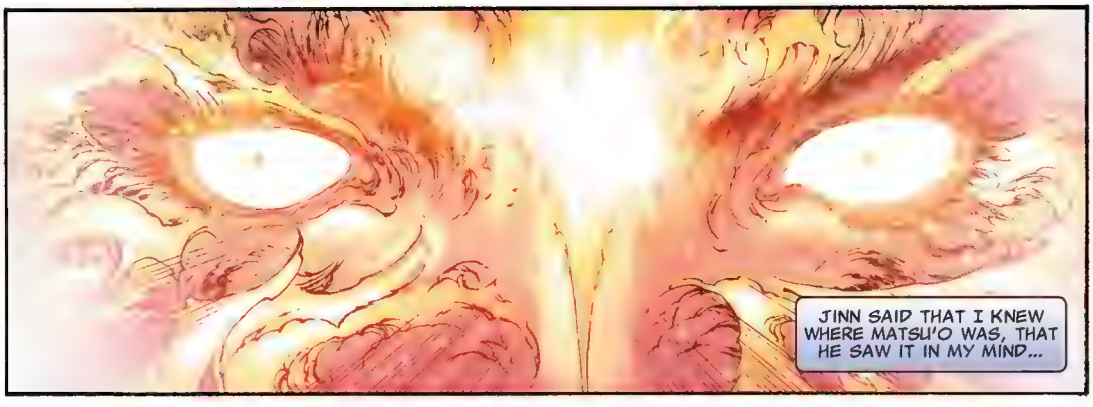
THE CITY.
‹YOU SHOULD BE DEAD...›
‹...NO ONE CAN DRINK THAT MUCH.›
‹I AM NO ONE.›
‹EVERYTHING I WAS IS DEAD.›
‹NOTHING LEFT BUT THE DARKNESS.›
‹DRANK ENOUGH TO REMEMBER THAT.›
‹NOW IT'S TIME TO REMIND SOMEONE ELSE.›

I SUSPECT JINN TO BE A CREATURE OF MAGIC.
THE WAY HIS MIND BURNED MINE...THE WAY HE CONNECTED WITH ME...

HE SAID I HAD A DEATHWISH.
NOT MATSU'O. NOT YUKIO. ME.




WHY WOULD MATSU'O DO THIS TO JINN? TO ME?
I DON'T CARE. I JUST WANT HIM OUT OF MY LIFE. I WANT HIM DEAD AND BURIED.


JINN SAID THAT I KNEW WHERE MATSU'O WAS, THAT HE SAW IT IN MY MIND...

BUT I DON'T...HOW COULD JINN--
IT DIDN'T HAVE TO BE LIKE THIS.
PART OF ME LOVED HIM.
AND HE LOVED ME.
WHEN KWANNON DIED, PART OF HIM DIED.
GOD. THAT'S WHAT JINN SAW. I KNOW WHERE HE IS.
THE SAME PLACE SHE DIED.

JINN'S GOING TO KILL HIM.
I HAVE TO... I HAVE TO...
druid's heap
I HAVE TO WHAT? WHAT AM I DOING?
WHY STOP JINN?
WHAT AM I DOING?
NOW

SNFF!
SON OF A...
PICK UP, GIRL. DAMMIT... PICK UP.
PICK UP, YUKIO.

NOT FAR AWAY.
MATSU'O!!!
FACE ME, DAMN YOU!!
TT. I REALLY THOUGHT THE GIRL WOULD FIND ME FIRST.
TELL ME, JINN...HOW IS YOUR LOVELY WIFE?
MAKE PEACE WITH YOUR GODS, VILLAIN.

UHN!!
SLASH!
HNN!
I DIDN'T GET TO PLAY WITH YOU AT MATSU'O'S ESTATE, ASSASSIN. HI. I'M YUKIO.
WHACK!
AAHH!
THIS IS NO GAME!
HUP!
KIND OF THOUGHT THAT BETSY WOULD BE HERE BY NOW.
GLAD I GET TO TAKE YOU DOWN MYSELF.
YOU HAVE GREAT SPIRIT, HUMAN.
BUT YOU HAVE CHOSEN A HORRIFIC DEATH HERE TODAY.

AAAAAHHH!
RRRAAAA!
VMM!
???
YUKIO.
SLEEP NOW.
UHHH...
YOU INTEND TO FIGHT ME? WHY?
THIS IS WHAT YOU WANT AS WELL. YOU WANT HIM DEAD!
YES. BUT ON MY TERMS, NOT HIS.
MATSU'O IS PLAYING US. HE'S DRAWING BOTH OF US IN. AND I NEED TO KNOW WHY.

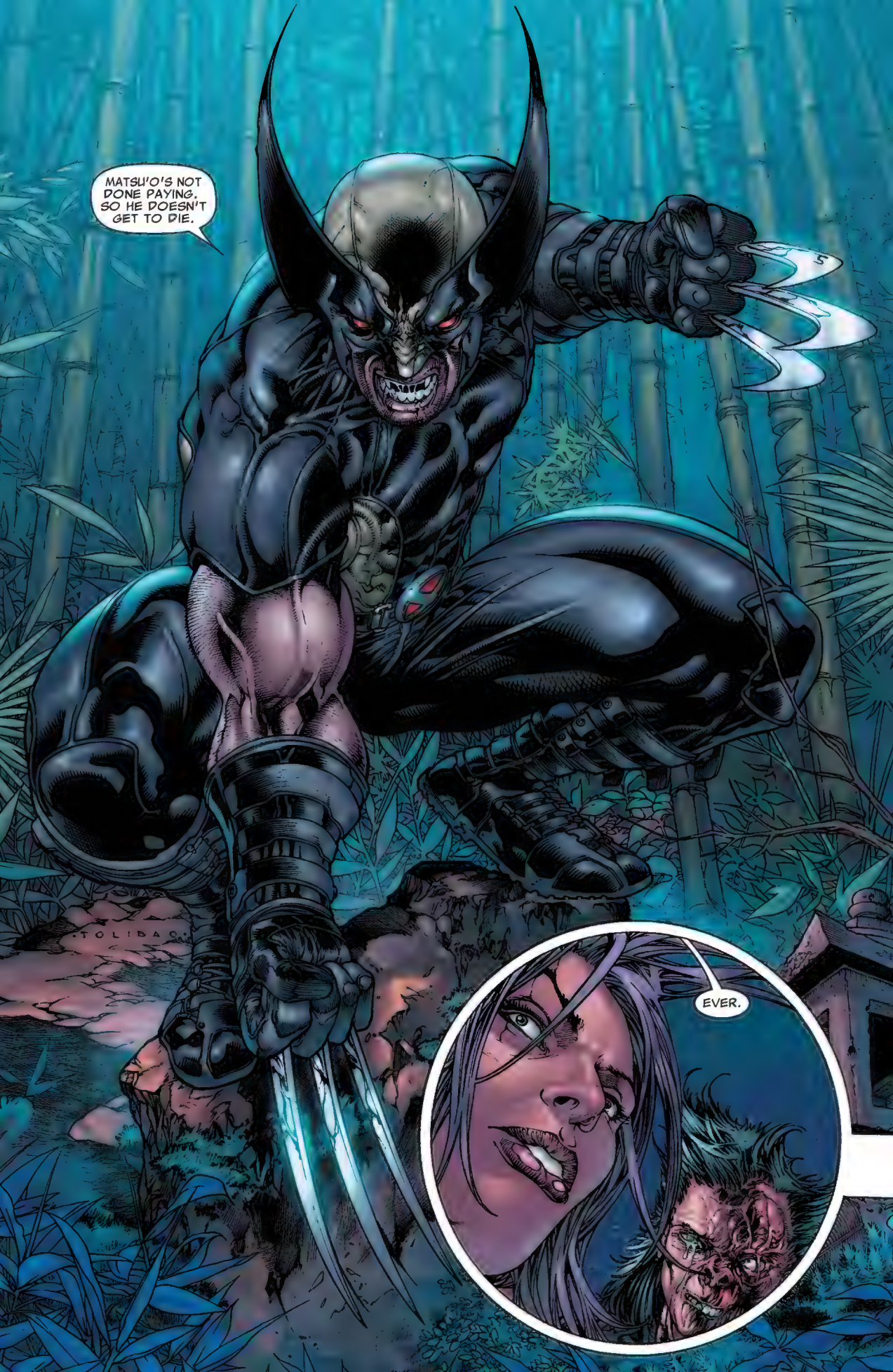
AND I DO NOT.
VMM!
FWASH!
STOP THIS!
YOU KNOW WHAT HE TOOK FROM ME!
I KNOW.
WHAT HE TOOK FROM YOU...I DO NOT FULLY UNDERSTAND. BUT I KNOW THAT NEITHER OF US ARE WHOLE NOW. THAT NEITHER OF US ARE ALIVE NOW. BECAUSE OF HIM.
I WILL NOT BE USED, NOT EVER AGAIN. AND I WILL NOT LET HIM USE YOU.
WHAT WILL YOU BECOME, AFTER THIS? THIS IS NOT WHAT YOUR WIFE AND CHILD WOULD WANT.
RRAAAAA!!

MY PSYCHIC KNIFE PLUNGES INTO HIS BEING. THE FLAMES BURN MY BODY AND MIND.
BUT I CANNOT LET HIM KILL MATSU'O.
JINN IS SOMEHOW FIRE MADE FLESH. ALL HE KNEW WAS DEATH AND DESTRUCTION. BUT SOMEHOW, HE FOUND LOVE.
BUT MATSU'O NEEDED DEATH AND DESTRUCTION.
I WILL NOT GIVE HIM THAT SATISFACTION.
JINN WILL LIVE THE LIFE HE WANTED. NOT THE LIFE MATSU'O GAVE HIM.
I WILL NOT LET HIM BECOME EMPTY AND HOLLOW, LIKE ME.

I ASSUME JINN IS NO THREAT TO ME ANY LONGER.
HE WILL GRIEVE. HE WILL HEAL, AND HE WILL LIVE. BUT HE WILL NOT KILL YOU.
AND WHAT OF YOU, ELISABETH? WILL YOU HEAL? WILL YOU LIVE?
I'VE DESTROYED YOUR LIFE, AND NOW ANY LAST VESTIGES OF IT.
IS THERE FORGIVENESS IN YOUR HEART? OR REVENGE?
WHY DID YOU DO THIS TO HIM? TO ME?
YOU WERE MY PREFERENCE. JINN WAS...A CONTINGENCY.
WHY, MATSU'O?
YOU WISH TO KNOW WHY?
DEAR GOD.

I DID ALL THIS SO THAT YOU WOULD KILL ME.
TOLIBAO
FLOREA 109

MATSU'O...
I DID THIS BECAUSE I CAN NO LONGER HOLD A SEPPUKU KNIFE TO END IT MYSELF WITH HONOR.
KILL ME.
WHO DID THIS TO YOU?
KILL ME!!
WHO DID THIS TO YOU?!
KILL ME, ELISABETH.
I...I...
I WON'T STOP. YOUR BROTHER. WARREN WORTHINGTON. ALISON BLAIRE...ANYONE AND EVERYONE YOU CARE ABOUT WILL DIE.
BUT YOU CAN STOP ME.
I DID.
NO...


MATSU'O'S NOT DONE PAYING. SO HE DOESN'T GET TO DIE.
EVER.

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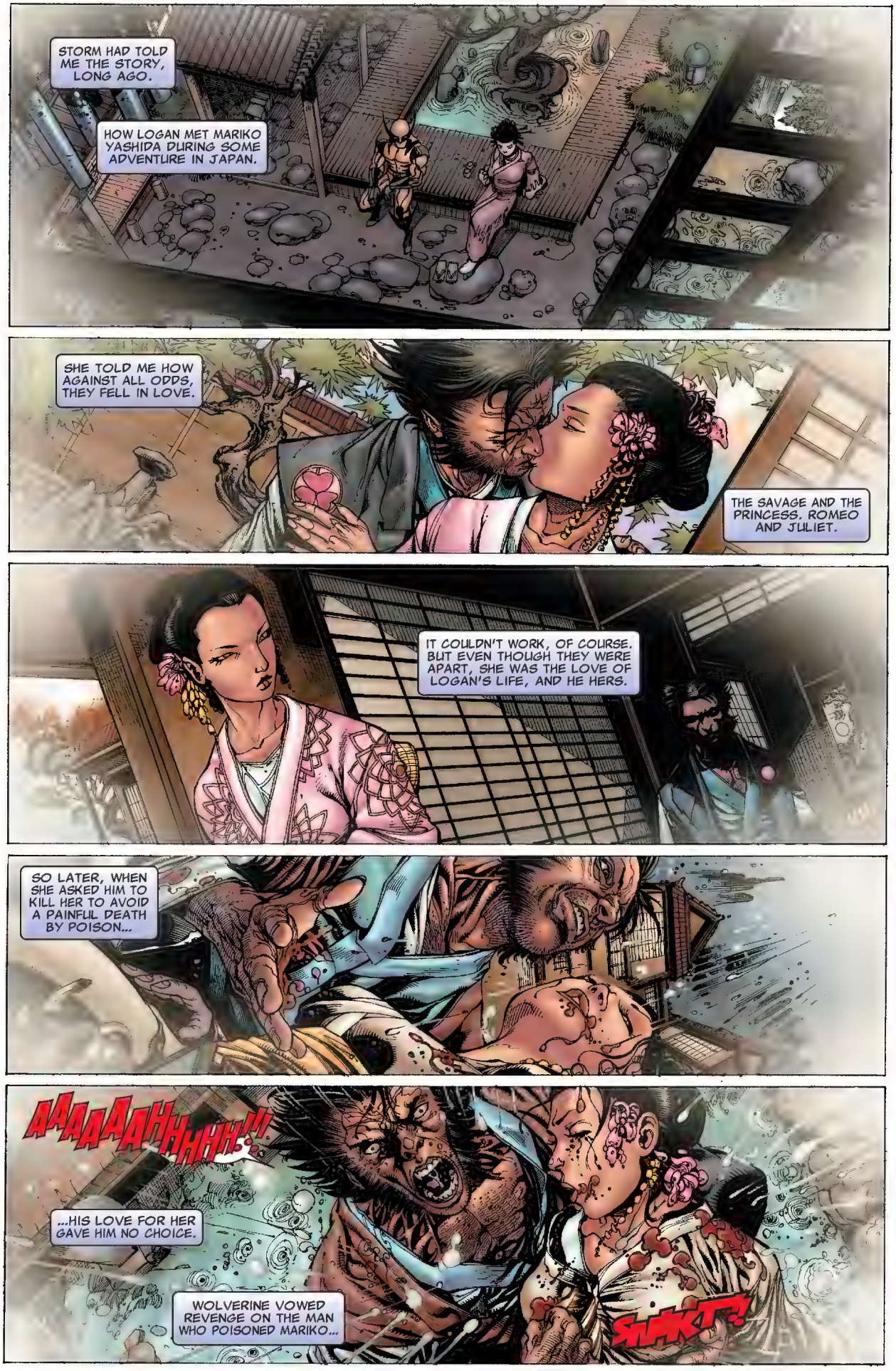

STORM HAD TOLD ME THE STORY, LONG AGO.
HOW LOGAN MET MARIKO YASHIDA DURING SOME ADVENTURE IN JAPAN.
SHE TOLD ME HOW AGAINST ALL ODDS, THEY FELL IN LOVE.
THE SAVAGE AND THE PRINCESS. ROMEO AND JULIET.
IT COULDN'T WORK, OF COURSE. BUT EVEN THOUGH THEY WERE APART, SHE WAS THE LOVE OF LOGAN'S LIFE, AND HE HERS.
SO LATER, WHEN SHE ASKED HIM TO KILL HER TO AVOID A PAINFUL DEATH BY POISON...
AAAAAAHHHHHH!!!
...HIS LOVE FOR HER GAVE HIM NO CHOICE.
WOLVERINE VOWED REVENGE ON THE MAN WHO POISONED MARIKO...
SHINK!

...MATSU'O TSURAYABA.
THIS IS WHY MATSU'O HAD MY BODY DESTROYED.
THIS IS WHY MATSU'O HAD JINN'S WIFE KILLED.
THIS IS WHY MATSU'O DRESSED HIS KILLERS UP LIKE HAND NINJA...
THIS IS ALL AN ELABORATE SUICIDE ATTEMPT.
THIS IS WHY YUKIO WAS PROTECTING MATSU'O.
SHE WAS ASKED TO MAKE SURE MATSU'O STAYED ALIVE. THAT HE STAYED ALIVE SO HE COULD CONTINUE TO SUFFER AT THE HANDS OF MY FRIEND AND TEAMMATE...

...WOLVERINE.
THIS...COULD BE A PROBLEM.
WALK AWAY, BETTS.
WALK AWAY RIGHT NOW.
KILL MATSU'O
CHAPTER FOUR

HOW LONG HAS THIS BEEN GOING ON FOR, LOGAN?
NOT LONG ENOUGH.
HE'S GOT IT COMING. EVERY CUT.
EVERY DROP OF BLOOD IS PAYMENT FOR WHAT HE TOOK FROM ME, AND IT'LL NEVER BE ENOUGH.
I SEE IT IN MATSU'O'S MIND...TODAY IS THE DAY MARIKO DIED.
THE ANNIVERSARY OF HER DEATH.
ON THIS DAY, EVERY YEAR, WOLVERINE VISITS MATSU'O, AND TAKES PART OF HIM.
MATSU'O FOUGHT FOR A TIME, SENT MEN AGAINST WOLVERINE...THEN FINALLY GAVE UP. HE TRIED TO END IT, BUT WOLVERINE WOULDN'T LET HIM.
HE MADE SURE MATSU'O STAYED ALIVE.
WHY NOT JUST KILL HIM, LOGAN? KILL HIM AND BE DONE WITH IT?
BECAUSE THAT'S TOO EASY.
ME AND MATSU'O, WE'RE BOTH GONNA LIVE WITH WHAT HE DID. WE'RE BOTH GONNA SUFFER.

THIS ISN'T WHO YOU ARE, LOGAN.
THIS ISN'T WHAT X-MEN DO.
THAT'S RICH COMING FROM SOMEONE HERE TO KILL A MAN. BUT YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN A LITTLE BLOODTHIRSTY, BETTS, HAVEN'T YOU?
DON'T ACT LIKE YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE.
I WILL NOT ALLOW THIS TO CONTINUE, LOGAN. I WILL NOT WALK AWAY.
SO PERHAPS WE CAN JUST SKIP THE PSYCHOANALYSIS.
FINE BY ME.

SNIKT!!
SNIKT!!
I'M NOT QUITE SURE HOW I SAW THAT LITTLE DEFIANT STAND OF MINE GOING, BUT SOMEHOW THIS WASN'T IT.
UHN!!
HE DREW BLOOD. HAD I NOT MOVED...
...HE WOULD HAVE TAKEN OFF MY HEAD. HE'LL KILL ME BEFORE HE LETS ME KILL MATSU'O.

AS THE MAN SAYS...
'FINE BY ME.'
MATSU'O TOOK AWAY LOGAN'S LIFE.
VMM!
I UNDERSTAND HIS RAGE.
SO WHY STOP HIM?
WOOSH!?
WHY DO I CARE ABOUT MATSU'O TSURAYABA?
WHAT AM I DOING?
ARRGHH!
SHUNK!

UHN!!
WOLVERINE AND I HAVE BEEN THROUGH MUCH TOGETHER.
WHAM!
THOK!!
WE SAVED THE WORLD TOGETHER, MORE THAN ONCE.
WE EVEN DIED TOGETHER.
AND WHEN MATSU'O STOLE MY LIFE...
...IT WAS WOLVERINE WHO REMINDED ME WHO I WAS.
HURR!!
I SAW MYSELF THROUGH HIS EYES.
SO I WILL DO THE SAME FOR HIM NOW.

DEAR LORD...HIS MIND...THE HOLES THAT USED TO BE THERE...THEY'RE FULL.
HE KNOWS EXACTLY WHO HE IS.
...
WELL... BOLLOCKS.
HIS MIND, IT'S FIGHTING ME. IT'S SHUTTING DOWN...
AND JUST LIKE THAT, LOGAN'S GONE.
NN!! HRRRR... HURRR...
RRAAAAA!!
ARRRGHH!!
ONLY THE ANIMAL REMAINS.

HURRR!!!
UHN!!
HE'S LIKE A WALL OF RAGE.
WHAM!
OVERWHELMING ME, MENTALLY AND PHYSICALLY.
TINK!!
CAN'T THINK.
CAN'T FOCUS.
SHUNK!
CAN'T EVEN BREATHE.
AND HE'S NOT GOING TO STOP.

NYEAARGH!!
WHOOSH!
JINN.
THAT ANIMAL DOES NOT KNOW WHEN HE IS ALREADY DEAD.
HE'S LIKE THAT.
WHAT YOU HAVE DONE TO ME...INVADING MY MIND...THIS I WILL NOT FORGIVE.
BUT YOU SHOWED ME TRUTH.
I AM GOING HOME TO BURY MY WIFE.
JINN...
YOU SHOULD TAKE YOUR OWN ADVICE, ELISABETH BRADDOCK.
YOU SHOULD CHOOSE TO LIVE.
AND BEFORE I EVEN SENSE HIM COMING, IT'S TOO LATE.

RRRRAAAA!!
AAAAAAHH!!
I CAN FEEL JINN'S SCREAM IN MY MIND.
THE METAL ON WOLVERINE'S CLAWS...
...IT BURNS HIM.
I PUSH JINN OUT OF MY MIND, I HAVE TO.
BECAUSE BEING BURNED ALIVE ONLY MADE WOLVERINE ANGRIER.
BUT JINN GAVE ME WHAT I NEEDED.

HE LET ME FOCUS.
SKOOM
KRACK!!

I COULD TRY AND REACH LOGAN, TRY AND REMIND HIM OF WHO HE IS.
REMIND HIM OF THE HONORABLE MAN THAT MARIKO YASHIDA SAW IN HIM SO LONG AGO.
I COULD ASK HIM WHAT SHE WOULD SEE NOW, NOT JUST THIS RAGE, BUT WHAT HE'S DONE TO MATSU'O.

BUT NONE OF THAT MATTERS.
JINN SAID IT OF WOLVERINE, BUT HE MAY AS WELL HAVE BEEN TALKING ABOUT ME.
I AM ALREADY DEAD, AND DO NOT KNOW IT.
AND AS WOLVERINE HIMSELF SAID, I CAN NO LONGER PRETEND TO KNOW WHO I AM.
THIS LIFE...IT IS NOT MINE. I DIED A LONG TIME AGO.
AND I AM SO VERY TIRED OF FIGHTING.
ENOUGH.
IF YOU WISH TO KILL ME SO YOU MAY CONTINUE TORTURING MATSU'O...
...THEN KILL ME.
I WILL GIVE MARIKO YOUR REGARDS.

SNAKT
KILL HIM.
BUT SOMEDAY...

...SOMEDAY, THE TWO OF US ARE GONNA HAVE A TALK ABOUT THIS DEATH WISH YOU'VE DEVELOPED.
I'LL MEET YOU AT THE BLACKBIRD.
IF YOU SEE THE FIRE GUY AGAIN, TELL HIM IT WASN'T PERSONAL.
REALLY.
IS THAT IT, THEN? YOU'RE NOT EVEN GOING TO STAY AND WATCH?
NOPE.

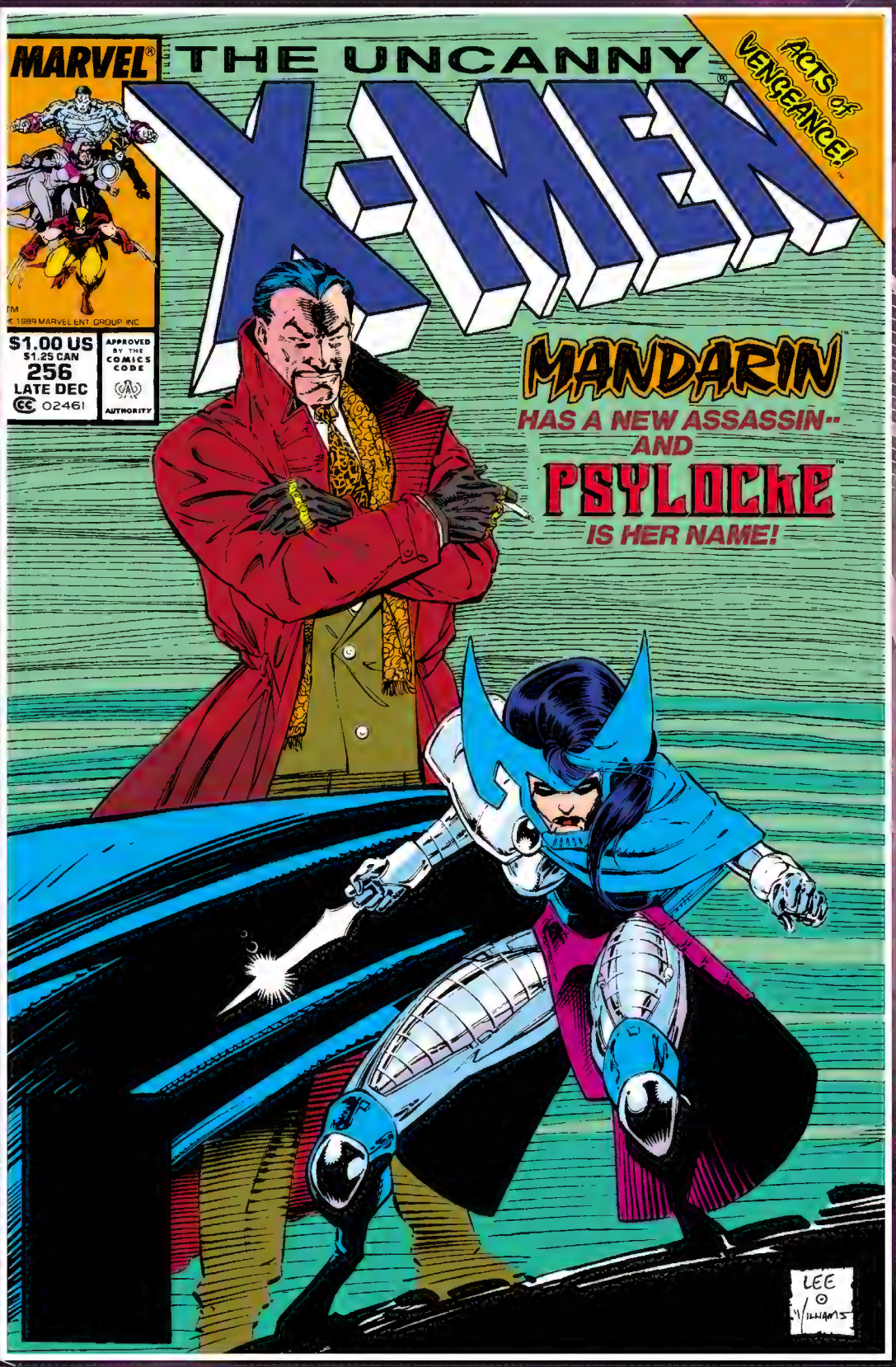
THANK YOU.
NO. YOU DO NOT GET TO THANK ME.
YOU TOOK EVERYTHING FROM ME. EVERYTHING I WAS, MY WHOLE LIFE.
I KNOW.
IT IS A HORRIBLE THING TO LOSE ONE'S SELF. I LOOK AT MYSELF IN THE MIRROR AND CANNOT RECONCILE WHAT I SEE WITH WHO I AM. THIS IS WHAT I DO TO PEOPLE, AND FOR THAT I AM TRULY SORRY.
ARE YOU READY?
I AM.
...I KNEW IT WOULD BE YOU, ELISABETH.
BRITISH PEOPLE ARE SO VERY DEPENDABLE.
...
HEH.

HNN!
MY HANDS...
THE PAIN...IT IS GONE...
HELLO, MY LOVE.
KWANNON...
I HAVE MISSED YOU SO, MATSU'O.
NOW, FINALLY...WE WILL BE TOGETHER.
THANK YOU, ELISABETH.
MAKE IT QUICK.

UT!
FOR SO LONG, MY LIFE HAS BEEN OUT OF MY OWN CONTROL.
CHAOS AND SERENDIPITY, WRAPPED IN INSANITY.
I HAVE SUFFERED.
I HAVE LOST. NOT JUST MY LIFE, BUT MY VERY SOUL. MY SELF.
BUT NO MORE.
NOW I KNOW WHO I AM.

UTOPIA. LATER.
GOOD NIGHT, CESSILY!
GOOD NIGHT, YOU GUYS, I--
PSYLOCKE?!
HELLO, MERCURY.
I KILLED A MAN THIS MORNING.
WHEN I ASKED IF WE SHOULD KILL SACK FOR ATTACKING YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS, YOU SAID "NO."
YOU'VE LOST YOUR FAMILY, YOUR FRIENDS HAVE DIED, YOU'VE BEEN TORN APART BY OUR ENEMIES...
...AND STILL YOU WOULDN'T KILL SACK.
HOLD ON TO THAT.
WHATEVER THIS LIFE MAY TAKE FROM YOU, NEVER LET IT TAKE AWAY WHO YOU ARE. HOLD ON TO YOURSELF WITH EVERYTHING YOU'VE GOT.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND. ARE...ARE YOU OKAY?
...
IT'S BEEN A DIFFICULT FEW YEARS. AND UNLIKE YOU, I DID LOSE MYSELF.
BUT THE MAN I KILLED TODAY, I KILLED HIM FOR THE RIGHT REASONS. IF THERE IS SUCH A THING.

"YOU WENT TO JAPAN. DID YOU FIND WHAT YOU WERE LOOKING FOR THERE?"
...
IT'S A START.
END.


MARVEL
THE UNCANNY
X-MEN
ACTS of VENGEANCE!
TM
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$1.00 US
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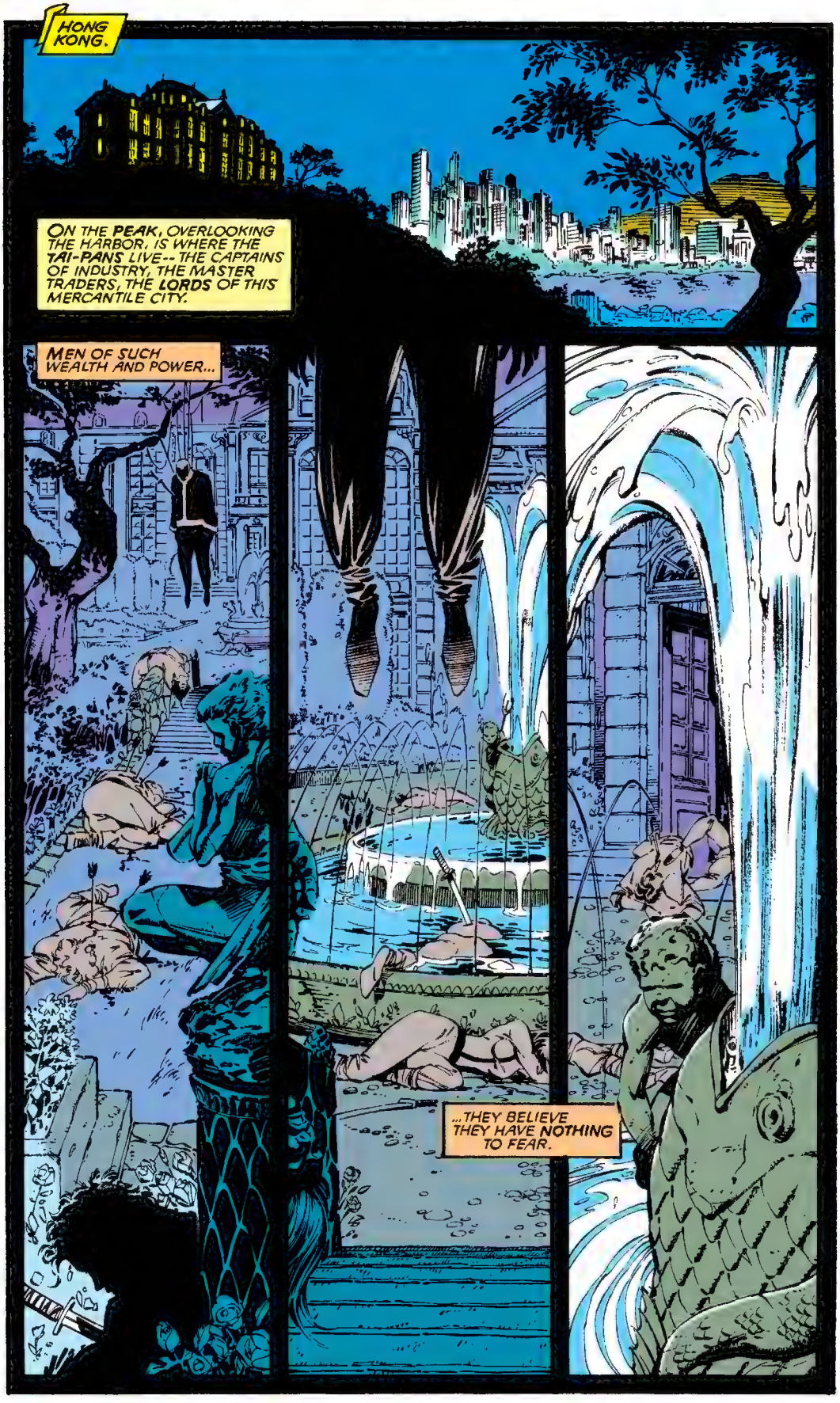
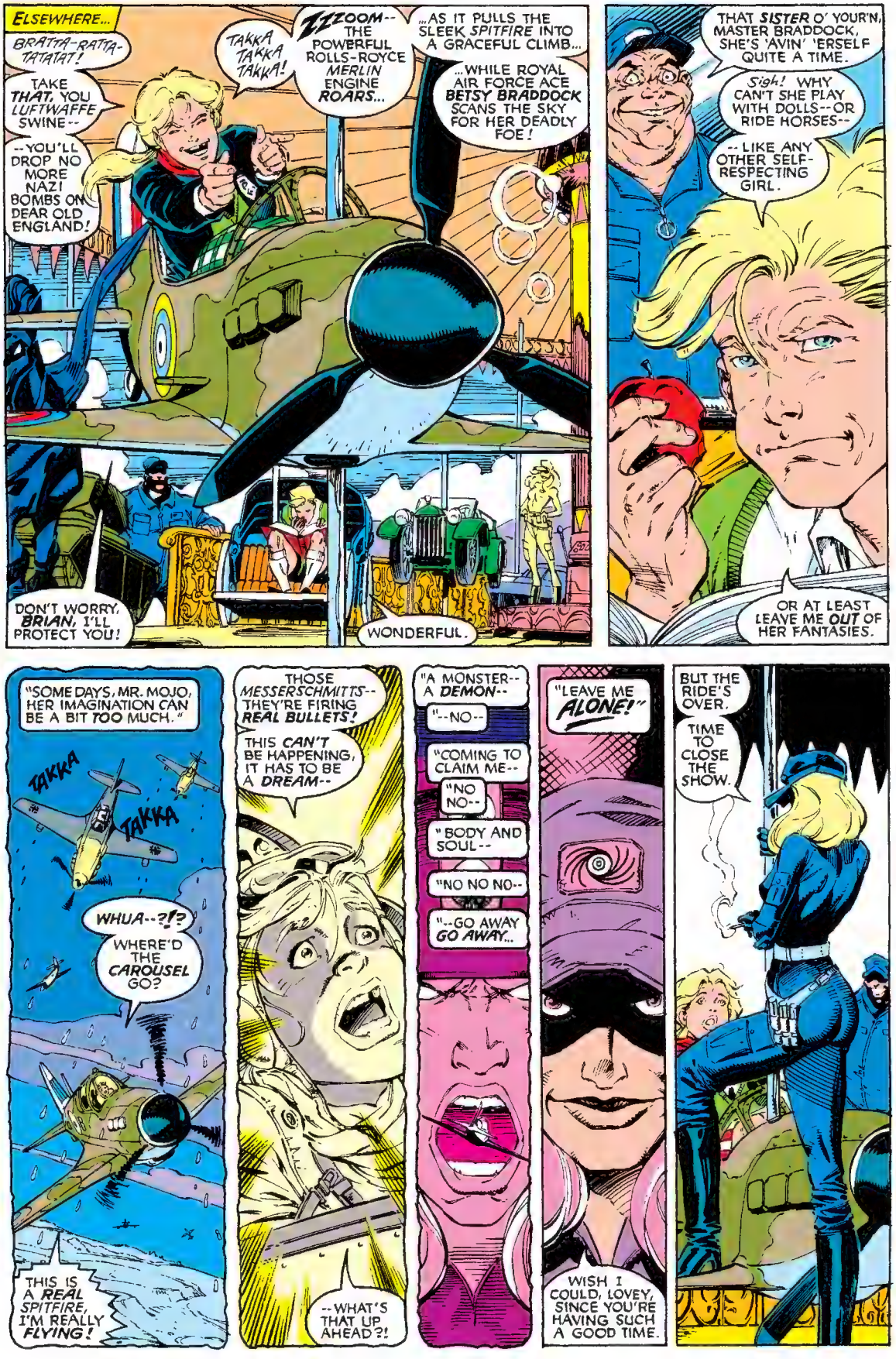
256
LATE DEC
02461
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE
AUTHORITY
MANDARIN
HAS A NEW ASSASSIN--
AND
PSYLOCKE
IS HER NAME!
LEE
WILLIAMS

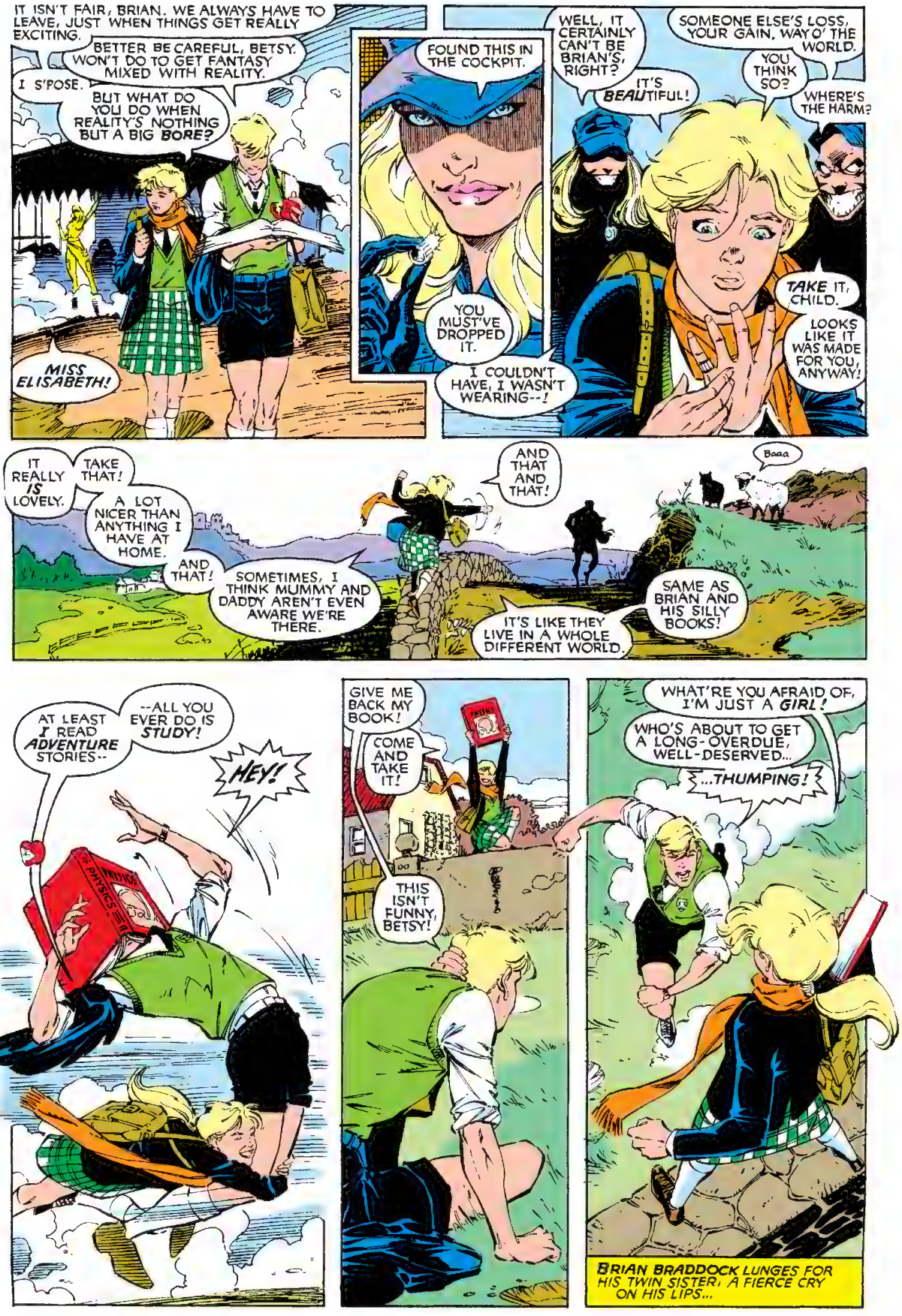

HONG KONG.
ON THE PEAK, OVERLOOKING THE HARBOR, IS WHERE THE TAI-PANS LIVE-- THE CAPTAINS OF INDUSTRY, THE MASTER TRADERS, THE LORDS OF THIS MERCANTILE CITY.
MEN OF SUCH WEALTH AND POWER...
...THEY BELIEVE THEY HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR.

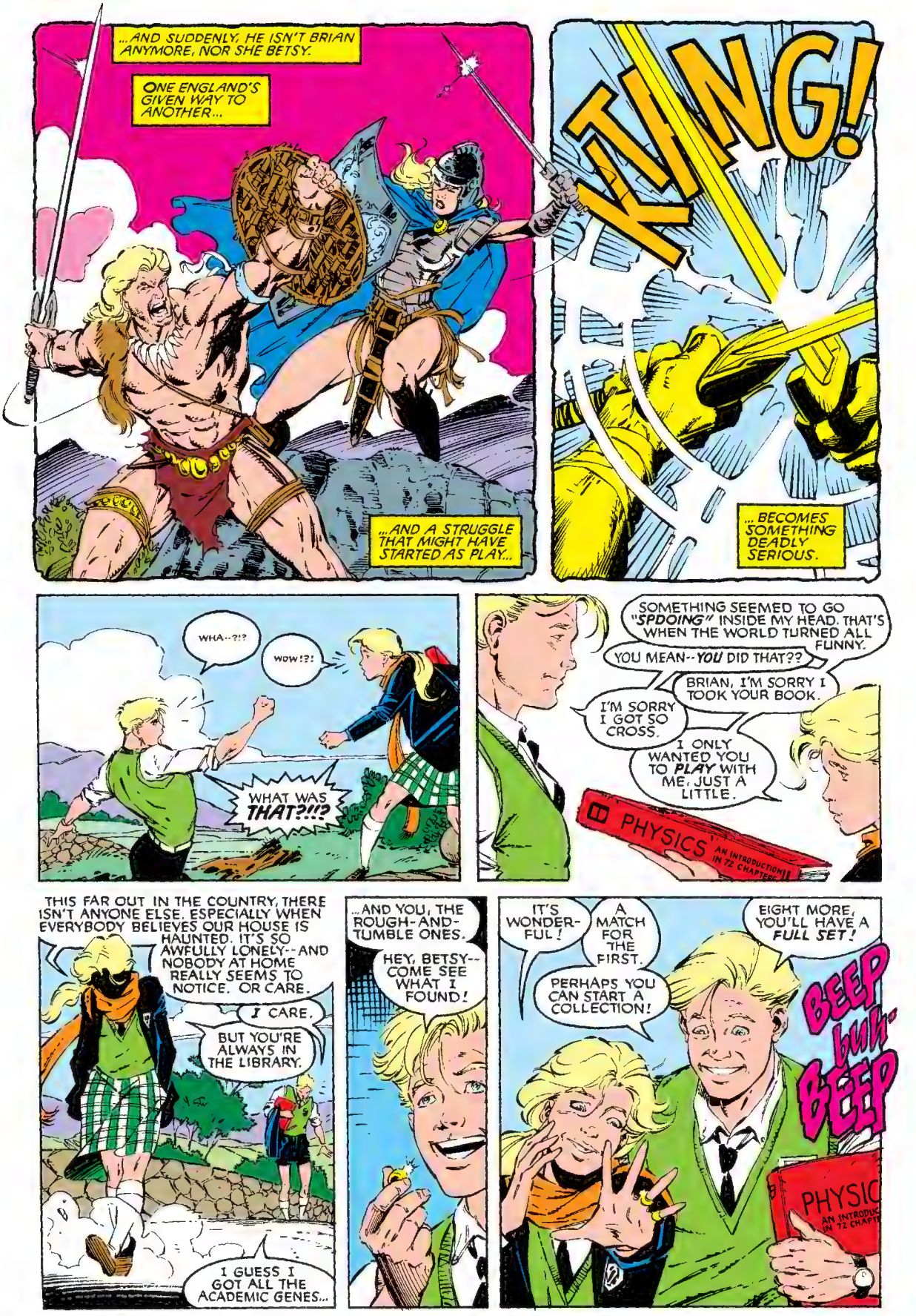
The KEY that BREAKS the LOCKE
〈 YOU HAVE SLAIN THOSE WHO SWORE FAITH TO ME... 〉 *
〈... THOSE WHO ACTED FOR ME AS MY HANDS. 〉
〈 WHY, PRAY TELL, SHOULD NOT YOUR MISERABLE LIFE STAND FORFEIT FOR THEIRS? 〉
〈 LORD MANDARIN--〉
〈--I AM MATSUO TSURAYABA. 〉
〈 AND I STRIPPED YOU OF THOSE LESSER HANDS... 〉
〈... THAT I MIGHT OFFER YOU THE SERVICES OF THE TRUE HAND. 〉
A STAN LEE PRESENTATION STARRING THE UNCANNY X-MEN
CHRIS CLAREMONT WRITER
JIM LEE PENCILER
SCOTT WILLIAMS INKER
GLYNIS OLIVER, COLORIST
TOM ORZECHOWSKI, LETTERER
BOB HARRAS, EDITOR
TOM DeFALCO, TAI-PAN
*TRANSLATED FROM THE CHINESE.-- Bob

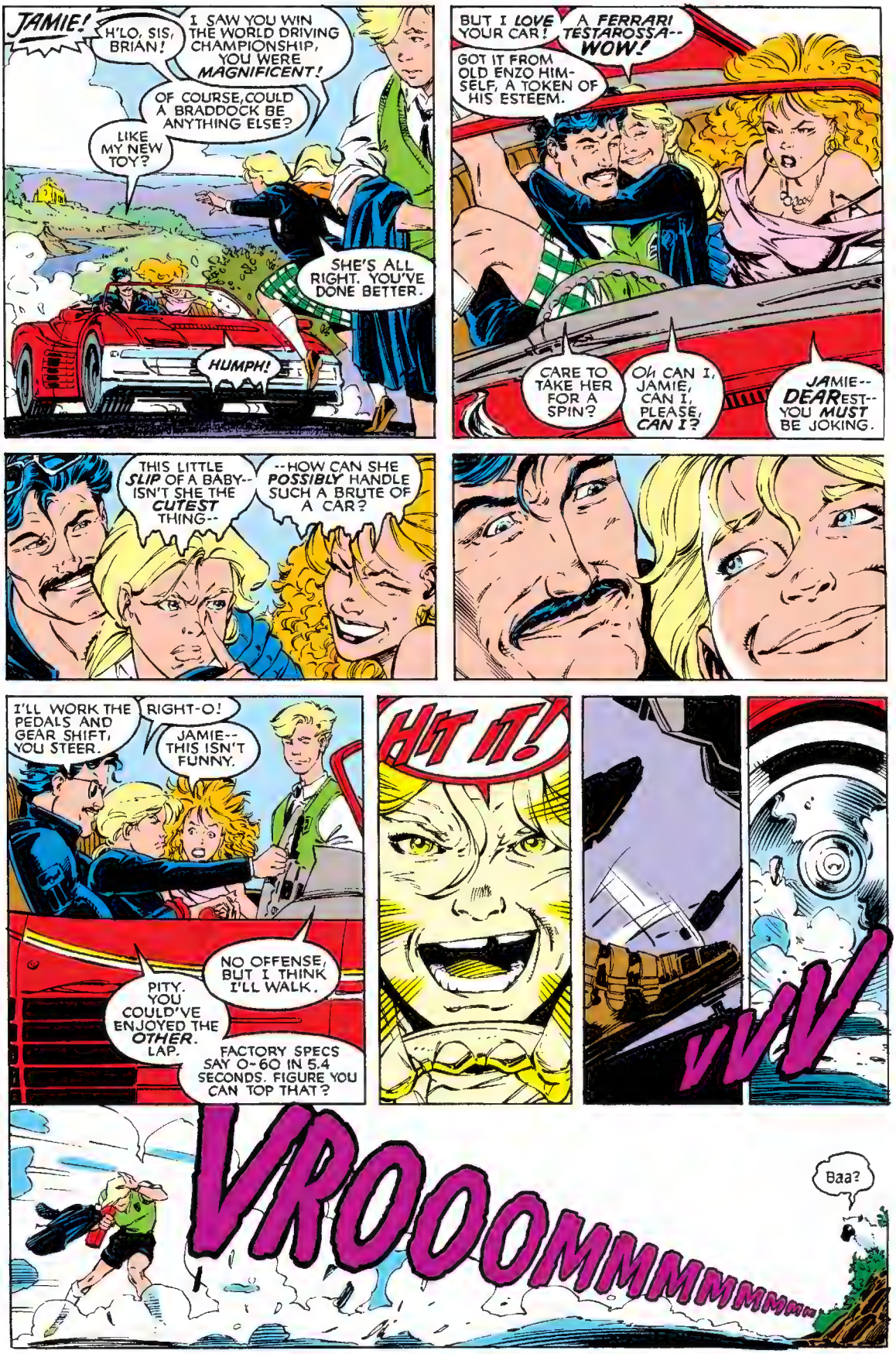
〈I AM TOLD THE HAND IS NO MORE.〉
〈OR ARE YOU LIKE HYDRA--〉
〈--VAINGLORIOUSLY BOASTING THAT SHOULD ONE LIMB BE SEVERED, A SCORE MORE WILL GROW TO TAKE ITS PLACE?〉
〈WHATEVER THE FATE OF ONE HAND, LORD... 〉
〈... A MAN MAY STILL RELY ON THE OTHER.〉
〈I SEE.〉
〈ARE YOU JONIN, OR COMMON GENIN?〉
〈I AM AN EMISSARY.〉
〈WHAT NEED HAVE I FOR YOU, "EMISSARY"...〉
〈...OR YOUR FABLED ORDER OF ASSASSINS?〉
〈THE LEAST OF THESE RINGS IS SUFFICIENT TO REDUCE YOU TO DUST WITH BUT A THOUGHT!〉
〈YET THE TRUEST MEASURE OF A WEAPON...〉
〈...IS THE SKILL OF WHOMEVER WIELDS IT. 〉
〈I STAND BEFORE YOU, LORD.〉
〈YOUR PRECIOUS "HANDS" DO NOT. 〉
〈AND SHOULD I WISH TO LAY THE PROUD MANDARIN LOW...〉
〈... IT'S SAID ALL I NEED DO... 〉
〈...IS SUMMON THE AMERICAN AVENGER...〉
〈... IRON MAN.〉

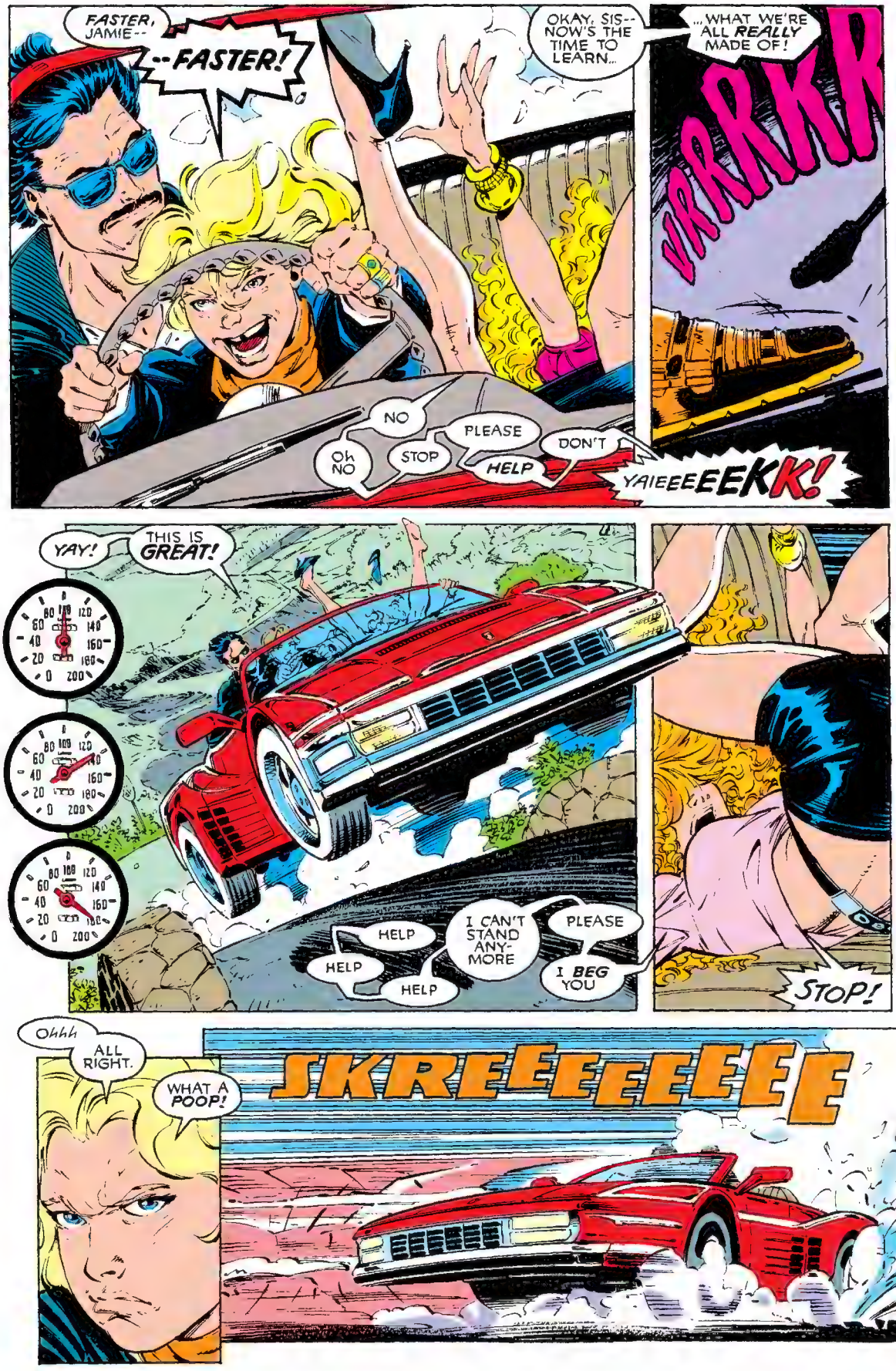
〈YOU YET LIVE, ISLANDER.〉
〈MAKE USE OF YOUR BOUNTY.〉
〈BEFORE THE CENTURY IS DONE, LORD, HONG KONG WILL REVERT TO CHINESE SOVEREIGNTY.〉
〈YET EVEN NOW, WINDS OF CHANGE BLOW FROM THE GOBI TO THE SOUTH CHINA SEA.〉
〈THE MIDDLE KINGDOM IS IN FERMENT. THE OLD MEN IN BEIJING HAVE BROKEN FAITH WITH THE PEOPLE, THEIR WORLD WILL END WITH THEIR LIVES.
〈NOT IN ALL HISTORY HAS THERE BEEN SUCH AN OPPORTUNITY, FOR THE RIGHT MAN IN THE RIGHT PLACE...〉
〈...TO CARVE HIMSELF AN **EMPIRE**, THE LIKES OF WHICH THIS WORLD HAS **NEVER** KNOWN!〉
〈YOU TELL ME **NOTHING** I DO NOT ALREADY KNOW.〉
〈BUT WHO WILL FOLLOW A MAN WHO CAN BE BEATEN BY THE MOST COMMON YANKEE "SUPER HERO"?〉
〈EVEN A MANDARIN CAN LOSE ONLY SO MUCH "**FACE**," LORD, BEFORE EVEN THE MOST FEARSOME POWER IS RENDERED IMPOTENT AND USELESS.〉
〈AND HIS ONCE-NOBLE NAME BECOMES LITTLE BETTER THAN A JOKE.〉
〈YOU, I ASSUME, OFFER A SOLUTION?〉
〈A MEANS, LORD, TO STRIKE AT YOUR FOES WITH IMPUNITY.〉
〈TO KNOW THEIR MINDS' MOST INTIMATE SECRETS...〉
〈...THAT YOU MAY CUT OUT THEIR HEARTS.〉
〈LI FONG--〉
〈-- MY GUEST AND I WILL TAKE TEA...〉
〈...WHILE WE DISCUSS THIS MATTER... FURTHER.〉

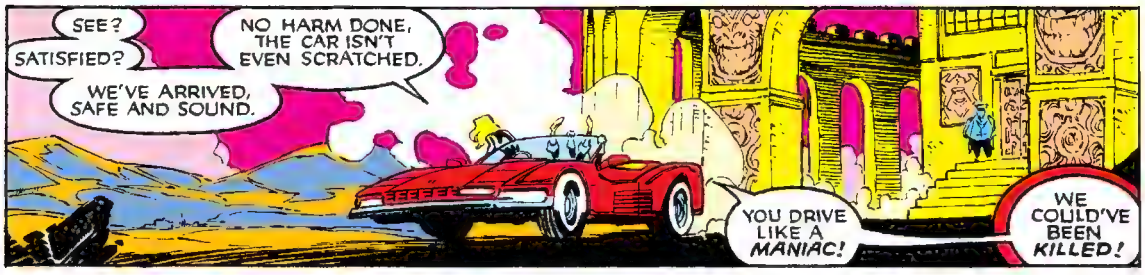

ELSEWHERE...
BRATTA-RATTA-TATATAT!
TAKE THAT, YOU LUFTWAFFE SWINE--
--YOU'LL DROP NO MORE NAZI BOMBS ON DEAR OLD ENGLAND!
TAKKA TAKKA TAKKA!
ZZZOOM-- THE POWERFUL ROLLS-ROYCE MERLIN ENGINE ROARS...
...AS IT PULLS THE SLEEK SPITFIRE INTO A GRACEFUL CLIMB...
...WHILE ROYAL AIR FORCE ACE BETSY BRADDOCK SCANS THE SKY FOR HER DEADLY FOE!
DON'T WORRY, BRIAN, I'LL PROTECT YOU!
WONDERFUL.
THAT SISTER O' YOUR'N, MASTER BRADDOCK, SHE'S 'AVIN' 'ERSELF QUITE A TIME.
Sigh! WHY CAN'T SHE PLAY WITH DOLLS--OR RIDE HORSES--
--LIKE ANY OTHER SELF-RESPECTING GIRL.
OR AT LEAST LEAVE ME OUT OF HER FANTASIES.
"SOME DAYS, MR. MOJO, HER IMAGINATION CAN BE A BIT TOO MUCH."
TAKKA
TAKKA
WHUA--?!?
WHERE'D THE CAROUSEL GO?
THIS IS A REAL SPITFIRE, I'M REALLY FLYING!
THOSE MESSERSCHMITTS-- THEY'RE FIRING REAL BULLETS!
THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING, IT HAS TO BE A DREAM--
--WHAT'S THAT UP AHEAD?!
"A MONSTER-- A DEMON--
"--NO--
"COMING TO CLAIM ME--
"NO NO--
"BODY AND SOUL--
"NO NO NO--
"--GO AWAY GO AWAY...
"LEAVE ME ALONE!"
WISH I COULD, LOVEY, SINCE YOU'RE HAVING SUCH A GOOD TIME.
BUT THE RIDE'S OVER.
TIME TO CLOSE THE SHOW.

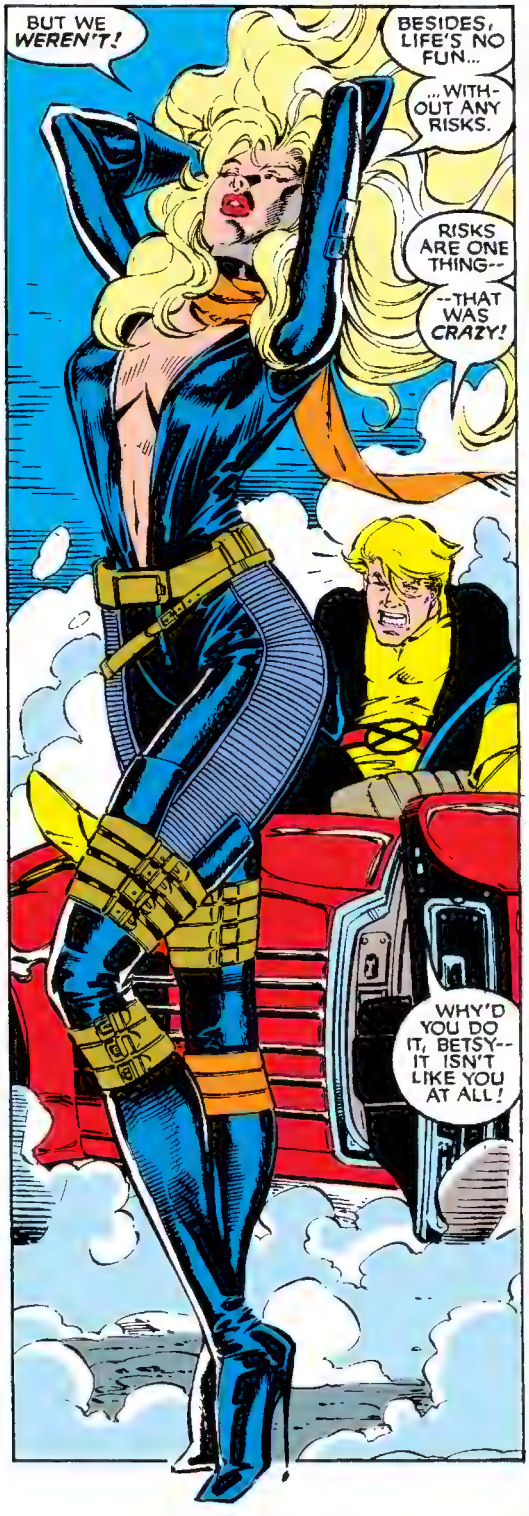

IT ISN'T FAIR, BRIAN. WE ALWAYS HAVE TO LEAVE, JUST WHEN THINGS GET REALLY EXCITING.
BETTER BE CAREFUL, BETSY. WON'T DO TO GET FANTASY MIXED WITH REALITY.
I S'POSE.
BUT WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN REALITY'S NOTHING BUT A BIG BORE?
MISS ELISABETH!
FOUND THIS IN THE COCKPIT.
YOU MUST'VE DROPPED IT.
I COULDN'T HAVE, I WASN'T WEARING--!
WELL, IT CERTAINLY CAN'T BE BRIAN'S, RIGHT?
SOMEONE ELSE'S LOSS, YOUR GAIN, WAY O' THE WORLD.
IT'S BEAUTIFUL!
YOU THINK SO?
WHERE'S THE HARM?
TAKE IT, CHILD.
LOOKS LIKE IT WAS MADE FOR YOU, ANYWAY!
IT REALLY IS LOVELY.
TAKE THAT!
A LOT NICER THAN ANYTHING I HAVE AT HOME.
AND THAT!
SOMETIMES, I THINK MUMMY AND DADDY AREN'T EVEN AWARE WE'RE THERE.
AND THAT AND THAT!
Baaa
IT'S LIKE THEY LIVE IN A WHOLE DIFFERENT WORLD.
SAME AS BRIAN AND HIS SILLY BOOKS!
AT LEAST I READ ADVENTURE STORIES--
--ALL YOU EVER DO IS STUDY!
HEY!
PHYSICS
GIVE ME BACK MY BOOK!
COME AND TAKE IT!
THIS ISN'T FUNNY, BETSY!
WHAT'RE YOU AFRAID OF, I'M JUST A GIRL!
WHO'S ABOUT TO GET A LONG-OVERDUE, WELL-DESERVED...
...THUMPING!
BRIAN BRADDOCK LUNGES FOR HIS TWIN SISTER, A FIERCE CRY ON HIS LIPS...

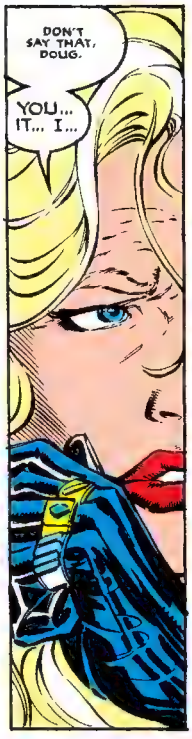

...AND SUDDENLY, HE ISN'T BRIAN ANYMORE, NOR SHE BETSY.
ONE ENGLAND'S GIVEN WAY TO ANOTHER...
...AND A STRUGGLE THAT MIGHT HAVE STARTED AS PLAY...
KYNG!
...BECOMES SOMETHING DEADLY SERIOUS.
WHA--?!?
WOW!?!
WHAT WAS THAT?!!?
SOMETHING SEEMED TO GO "SPDOING" INSIDE MY HEAD. THAT'S WHEN THE WORLD TURNED ALL FUNNY.
YOU MEAN--YOU DID THAT??
BRIAN, I'M SORRY I TOOK YOUR BOOK.
I'M SORRY I GOT SO CROSS.
I ONLY WANTED YOU TO PLAY WITH ME, JUST A LITTLE.
PHYSICS
AN INTRODUCTION IN 72 CHAPTERS
THIS FAR OUT IN THE COUNTRY, THERE ISN'T ANYONE ELSE. ESPECIALLY WHEN EVERYBODY BELIEVES OUR HOUSE IS HAUNTED. IT'S SO AWFULLY LONELY--AND NOBODY AT HOME REALLY SEEMS TO NOTICE. OR CARE.
I CARE.
BUT YOU'RE ALWAYS IN THE LIBRARY.
I GUESS I GOT ALL THE ACADEMIC GENES...
...AND YOU, THE ROUGH-AND-TUMBLE ONES.
HEY, BETSY--COME SEE WHAT I FOUND!
IT'S WONDERFUL!
A MATCH FOR THE FIRST.
PERHAPS YOU CAN START A COLLECTION!
EIGHT MORE, YOU'LL HAVE A FULL SET!
BEEP buh-BEEP
PHYSIC
AN INTRODUC IN 72 CHAPT

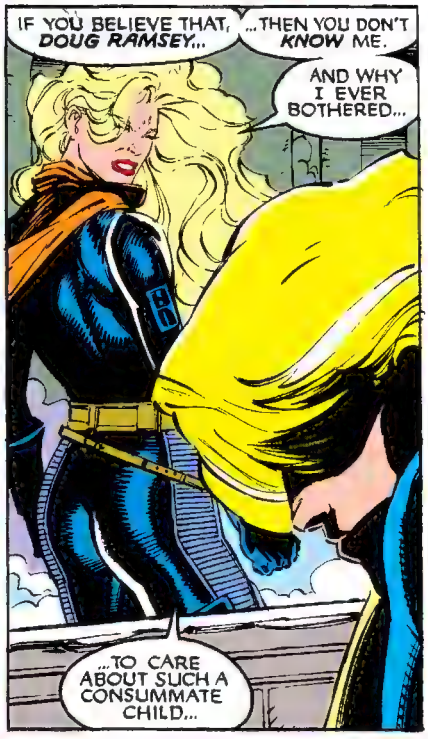

JAMIE!
H'LO, SIS, BRIAN!
I SAW YOU WIN THE WORLD DRIVING CHAMPIONSHIP, YOU WERE MAGNIFICENT!
OF COURSE, COULD A BRADDOCK BE ANYTHING ELSE?
LIKE MY NEW TOY?
SHE'S ALL RIGHT. YOU'VE DONE BETTER.
HUMPH!
BUT I LOVE YOUR CAR!
A FERRARI TESTAROSSA-- WOW!
GOT IT FROM OLD ENZO HIMSELF, A TOKEN OF HIS ESTEEM.
CARE TO TAKE HER FOR A SPIN?
Oh CAN I, JAMIE, CAN I, PLEASE, CAN I?
JAMIE-- DEAREST-- YOU MUST BE JOKING.
THIS LITTLE SLIP OF A BABY-- ISN'T SHE THE CUTEST THING--
--HOW CAN SHE POSSIBLY HANDLE SUCH A BRUTE OF A CAR?
I'LL WORK THE PEDALS AND GEAR SHIFT, YOU STEER.
RIGHT-O!
JAMIE-- THIS ISN'T FUNNY.
NO OFFENSE, BUT I THINK I'LL WALK.
PITY. YOU COULD'VE ENJOYED THE OTHER LAP.
FACTORY SPECS SAY 0-60 IN 5.4 SECONDS. FIGURE YOU CAN TOP THAT?
HIT IT!
VVV
VROOOMMMMMMM
Baa?


FASTER, JAMIE--
--FASTER!
OKAY, SIS--NOW'S THE TIME TO LEARN...
...WHAT WE'RE ALL REALLY MADE OF!
VRRRKKR
NO
OH NO
STOP
PLEASE
HELP
DON'T
YAIEEEEEEKK!
YAY!
THIS IS GREAT!
HELP
HELP
HELP
I CAN'T STAND ANY-MORE
PLEASE
I BEG YOU
STOP!
Ohhh
ALL RIGHT.
WHAT A POOP!
SKREEEEEEEE

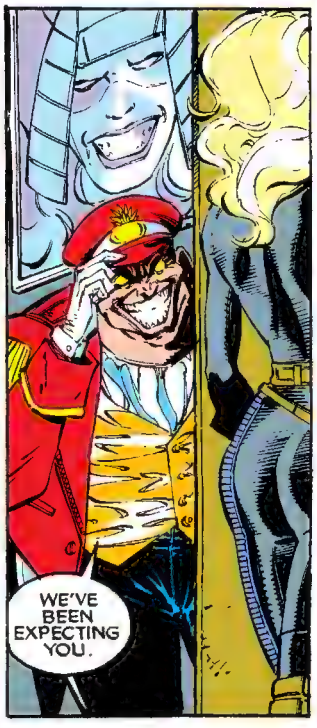

SEE? SATISFIED?
NO HARM DONE, THE CAR ISN'T EVEN SCRATCHED.
WE'VE ARRIVED, SAFE AND SOUND.
YOU DRIVE LIKE A MANIAC!
WE COULD'VE BEEN KILLED!


BUT WE WEREN'T!
BESIDES, LIFE'S NO FUN...
...WITHOUT ANY RISKS.
RISKS ARE ONE THING--
--THAT WAS CRAZY!
WHY'D YOU DO IT, BETSY-- IT ISN'T LIKE YOU AT ALL!

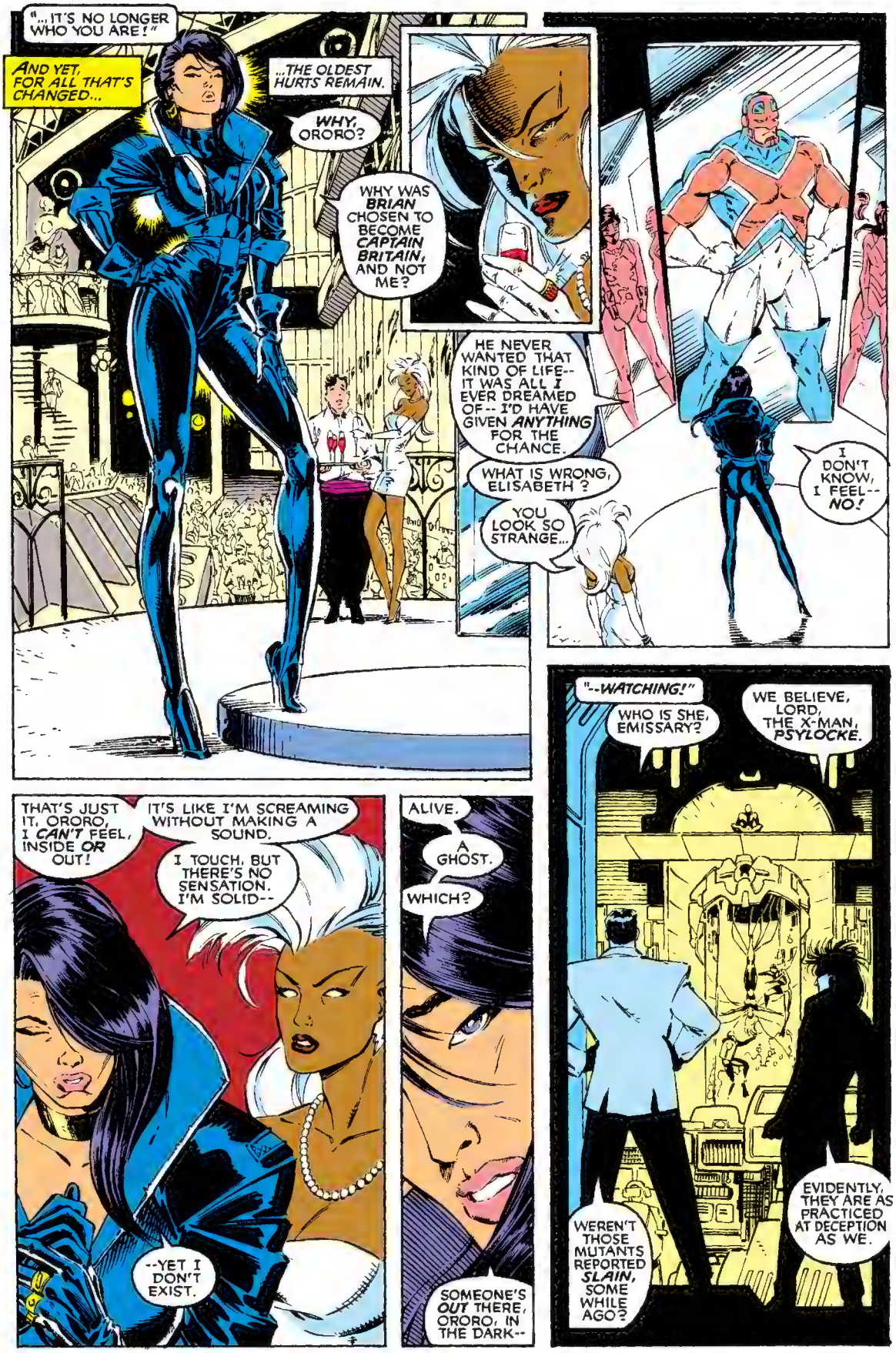

DON'T SAY THAT, DOUG.
YOU... IT... I...


IF YOU BELIEVE THAT, DOUG RAMSEY...
...THEN YOU DON'T KNOW ME.
AND WHY I EVER BOTHERED...
...TO CARE ABOUT SUCH A CONSUMMATE CHILD...

MOJO AND THE SPIDER-MAN
TONIGHT ONLY
...I'LL NEVER KNOW!
WELCOME BACK TO THE BODY SHOPPE, MISS BETSY.

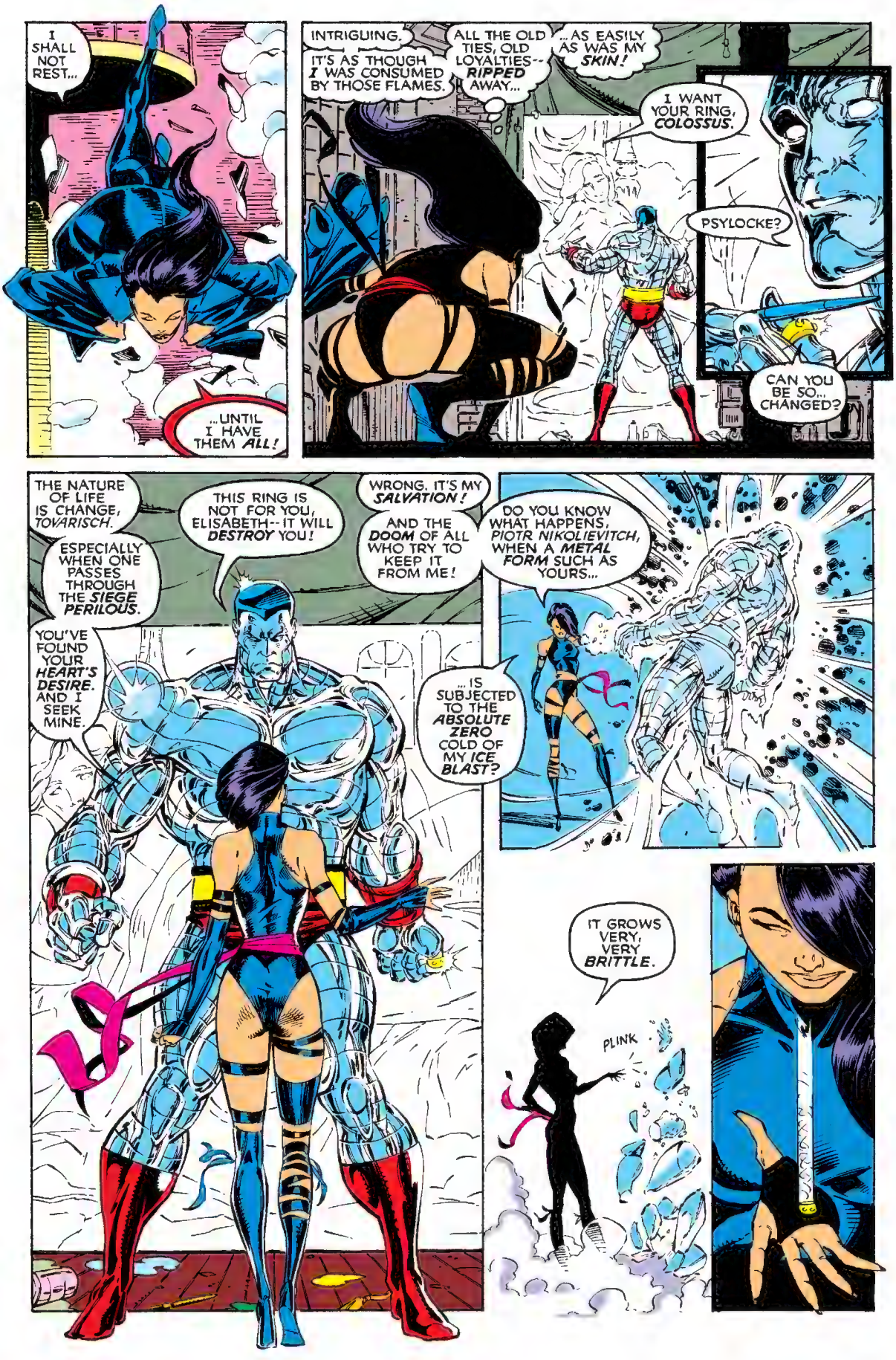

WE'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU.

YOUR FRIENDS HAVE ALREADY ARRIVED.
THANKS, MOJO.
HAVE A NICE STAY.
BETSY!
HULLO, STORM!
RAVISHING AS EVER!
NO LESS THAN YOU.
TRY THIS, MISS?
VERY SNAZZY.
SO MANY CLOTHES...
...SO LITTLE TIME.
THIS, PERHAPS?
THERE YOU ARE, MY NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY TOY!
'BYE, NOW!
LET GO! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
YOU'VE LOOKED LIKE THIS YOUR WHOLE LIFE.
TIME FOR A CHANGE!
OUT WITH THE OLD, IN WITH THE NEW!
THE MEDIUM IS THE MESSAGE, AFTER ALL.
AND WE CAN'T HAVE A WESTERNER...
...RUNNING THE HONG KONG UNDER-WORLD.
GLOOPA
GLOOP
ART AS LIFE...
...I DO LOVE IT SO!
FZZRIPP!
WHO-EVER YOU WERE, MY PET...


"...IT'S NO LONGER WHO YOU ARE!"
AND YET, FOR ALL THAT'S CHANGED...
...THE OLDEST HURTS REMAIN.
WHY, ORORO?
WHY WAS BRIAN CHOSEN TO BECOME CAPTAIN BRITAIN, AND NOT ME?
HE NEVER WANTED THAT KIND OF LIFE-- IT WAS ALL I EVER DREAMED OF-- I'D HAVE GIVEN ANYTHING FOR THE CHANCE.
WHAT IS WRONG, ELISABETH?
YOU LOOK SO STRANGE...
I DON'T KNOW, I FEEL-- NO!
THAT'S JUST IT, ORORO, I CAN'T FEEL, INSIDE OR OUT!
IT'S LIKE I'M SCREAMING WITHOUT MAKING A SOUND.
I TOUCH, BUT THERE'S NO SENSATION. I'M SOLID--
--YET I DON'T EXIST.
ALIVE.
A GHOST.
WHICH?
SOMEONE'S OUT THERE, ORORO, IN THE DARK--
"--WATCHING!"
WHO IS SHE, EMISSARY?
WE BELIEVE, LORD, THE X-MAN, PSYLOCKE.
WEREN'T THOSE MUTANTS REPORTED SLAIN, SOME WHILE AGO?
EVIDENTLY, THEY ARE AS PRACTICED AT DECEPTION AS WE.

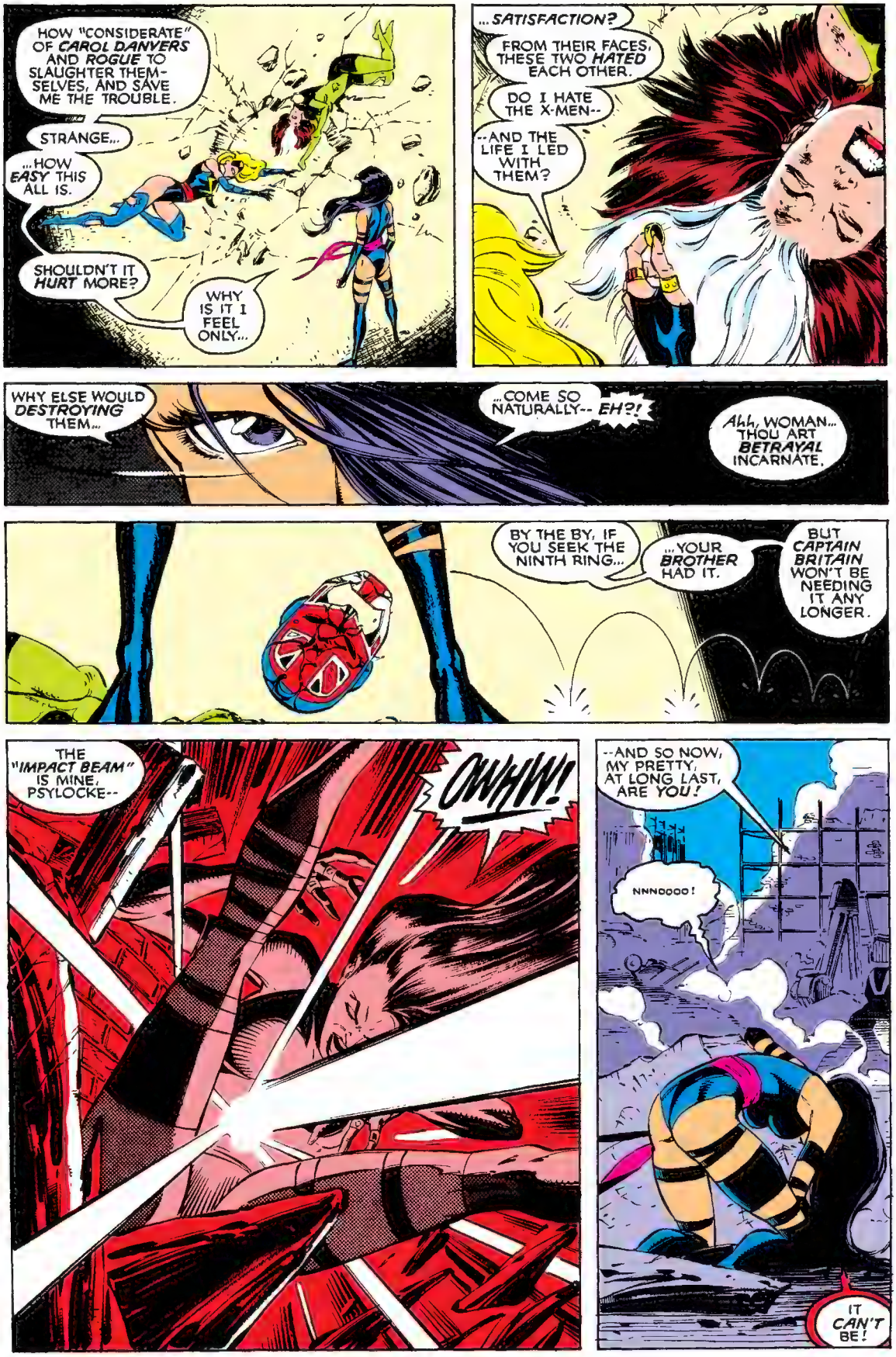
SOMETHING MUST HAVE HAPPENED TO THEM, HOWEVER, FOR WHEN WE FOUND THE WOMAN, SHE WAS IN SHOCK, HER MIND AND MEMORIES TOTALLY FRAGMENTED.
WE ARE IN THE PROCESS NOW OF ISOLATING APPROPRIATE ELEMENTS OF HER PSYCHE AND FOCUSING THEM TOWARDS OUR DESIRED END. WE PROVIDE THE GOAL, BUT SHE HERSELF THE PATH TO REACH IT.
IN EFFECT, SHE DEFINES THE TERMS OF HER NEW REALITY...
...AND, CONSEQUENTLY, ACCEPTS IT AS NATURALLY AS SHE DID THE OLD.
OUR SENSITIVE IS IN PSYCHIC RAPPORT WITH HER-- PARTLY TO MONITOR HER PROGRESS, SINCE SHE APPEARS "INVISIBLE" TO OUR SENSORS, MOSTLY TO PREVENT HER TELEPATHY FROM DETECTING US.
HE IS AWARE OF WHAT SHE'S EXPERIENCING, BUT WE DARE NOT DISTURB HIM AT THIS JUNCTURE WITHOUT PLACING THE ENTIRE PROCEDURE AT RISK.
BY COMBINING THE HAND'S SPIRITUAL RESOURCES, LORD, WITH YOUR UNPARALLELED SKILLS...
...IN THE FIELD OF SENSORY DEPRIVATION AND CONDITIONING...
...OUR AMBITION IS TO RECONFIGURE HER MENTAL MOSAIC INTO A MORE... USEFUL PATTERN.
IMAGINE, IF YOU WILL, AN OPERATIVE WHO CAN "READ" MINDS. CONTROL THEM. SLAY LITERALLY WITH BUT A THOUGHT. CONSIDER WHAT MIGHT BE ACCOMPLISHED.
FORGIVE ME, EMISSARY, BUT THE HAND HAS NEVER BEEN NOTED FOR ITS ALTRUISM. WHY MAKE ME THIS GIFT?
A GUILD OF ASSASSINS NEEDS EMPLOYMENT.
JUST AS A GREAT LORD, MANDARIN, NEEDS SPIES TO SEEK OUT HIS ENEMIES.
AND EXECUTIONERS TO DEAL WITH THEM.
"IN PSYLOCKE, YOU HAVE BOTH."

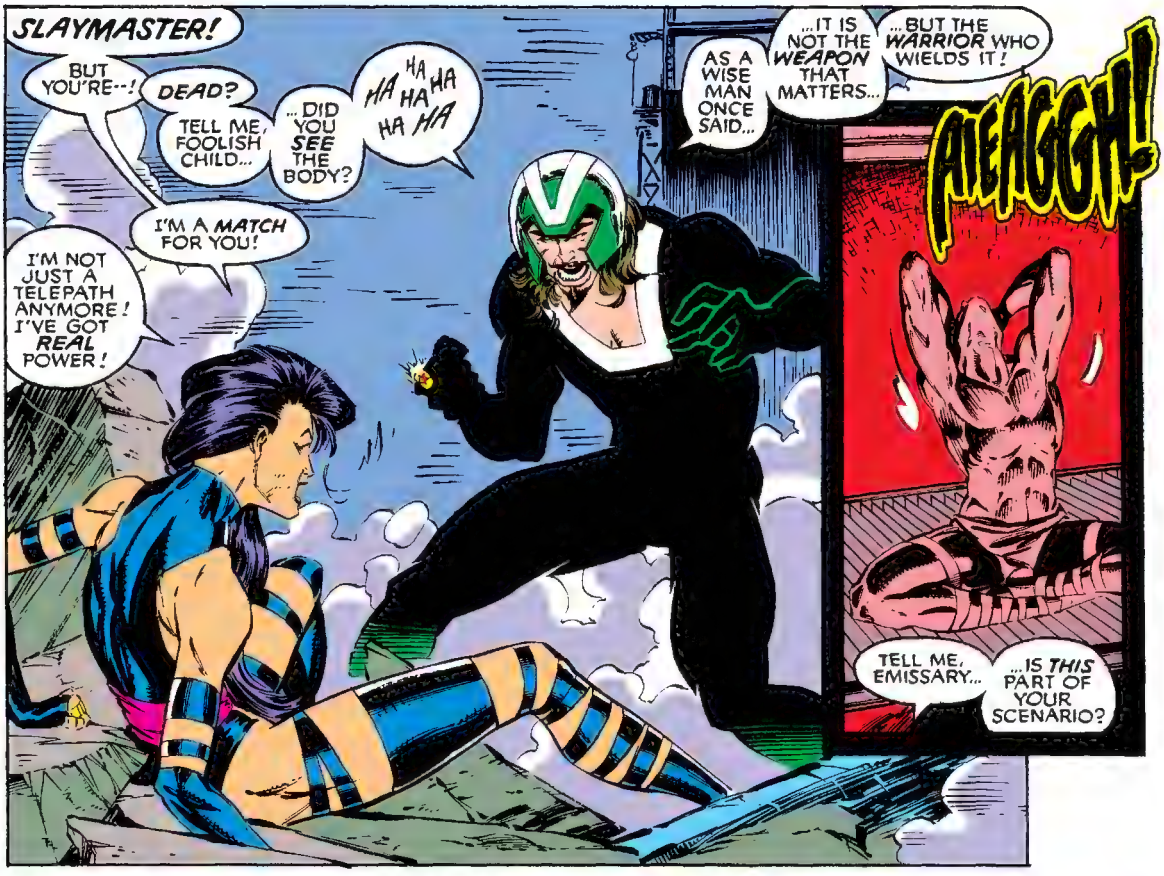
"IF WE CAN TURN HER, LORD--SUCCEED WHERE WE FAILED WITH ELEKTRA--THEN TRULY NOTHING IS BEYOND OUR POWER!"
I HAD MY CHANCE, Y'KNOW.
TO BE A HERO.
CAPTAIN BRITAIN.
FOR A DAY.
POOR LITTLE MAYFLY HERO-GIRL.
BUT I WASN'T GOOD ENOUGH!
I WAS TOO SOFT, TOO SENTIMENTAL, TOO WEAK!
NO LONGER!
I WANT YOUR RING, STORM.
BETSY, DO NOT--!
YOU HAVE NO WILL BUT MINE.
THE MENTO-INTENSIFIER RING...
...IS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO RESIST WHEN WIELDED BY A NORMAL MIND.
AMPLIFYING A TELEPATH'S POWER--
--THAT'S MY GIRL, GIVE IT HERE.
YOU'VE NO MORE NEED OF IT.
AND I, EVEN LESS OF YOU.
A MOST IMPRESSIVE FLAME BLAST.
FITTING, IN A WAY, THAT I TEST ITS MIGHT...
...ON MY BEST FRIEND.
BUT WHAT ARE FRIENDS, COMPARED TO POWER?
TEN RINGS FOR MY TEN FINGERS.

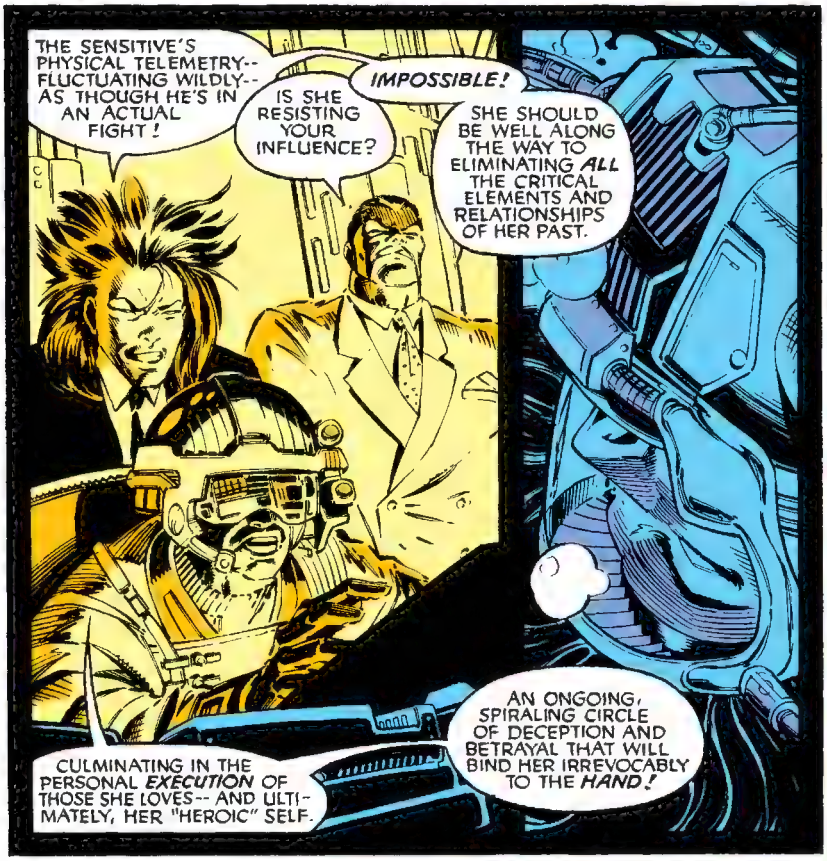

I SHALL NOT REST...
...UNTIL I HAVE THEM ALL!
INTRIGUING.
IT'S AS THOUGH I WAS CONSUMED BY THOSE FLAMES.
ALL THE OLD TIES, OLD LOYALTIES-- RIPPED AWAY...
...AS EASILY AS WAS MY SKIN!
I WANT YOUR RING, COLOSSUS.
PSYLOCKE?
CAN YOU BE SO... CHANGED?
THE NATURE OF LIFE IS CHANGE, TOVARISCH.
ESPECIALLY WHEN ONE PASSES THROUGH THE SIEGE PERILOUS.
YOU'VE FOUND YOUR HEART'S DESIRE. AND I SEEK MINE.
THIS RING IS NOT FOR YOU, ELISABETH-- IT WILL DESTROY YOU!
WRONG. IT'S MY SALVATION!
AND THE DOOM OF ALL WHO TRY TO KEEP IT FROM ME!
DO YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS, PIOTR NIKOLIEVITCH, WHEN A METAL FORM SUCH AS YOURS...
...IS SUBJECTED TO THE ABSOLUTE ZERO COLD OF MY ICE BLAST?
IT GROWS VERY, VERY BRITTLE.
PLINK

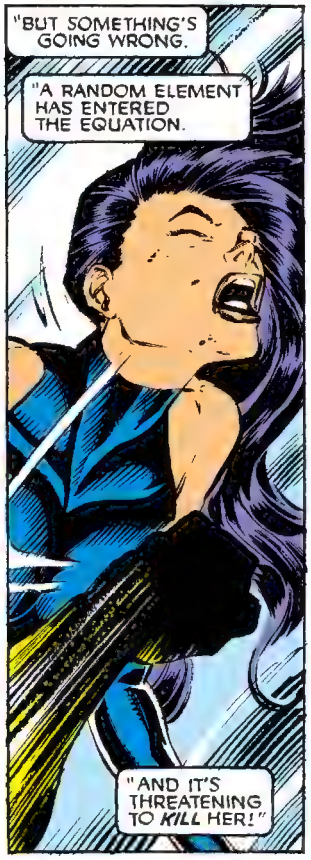
Humph!
COLOSSUS PAINTING IN NEW YORK'S SOHO ART COLONY...
...DAZZLER WORKING AT A HOLLYWOOD DANCE CLUB--
--WHAT "FASCINATING" VENUES TO FIND MY TEAMMATES IN.
BETTER WATCH YOURSELF, BRIGHT-EYES.
IT'S YOU SHE'S AFTER NOW.
NOT WITHOUT A FIGHT!
YOUR RINGS DON'T MEAN SQUAT, TURNCOAT...
...AGAINST MY LASER.
AM I GREAT, OR WHAT?
WRONG.
GASP!
SILLY GIRL.
SO SIMPLE FOR THE "MENTO-INTENSIFIER" RING TO CREATE THE ILLUSION I WAS OVER THERE-- MASKING MY PRESENCE AS I WALKED RIGHT UP BESIDE YOU--
--AND THEN FINISH YOU WITH THE "ELECTRO-BLAST."
ZZZRAK
THE "BLACK LIGHT" RING...
...MAKES SIX!

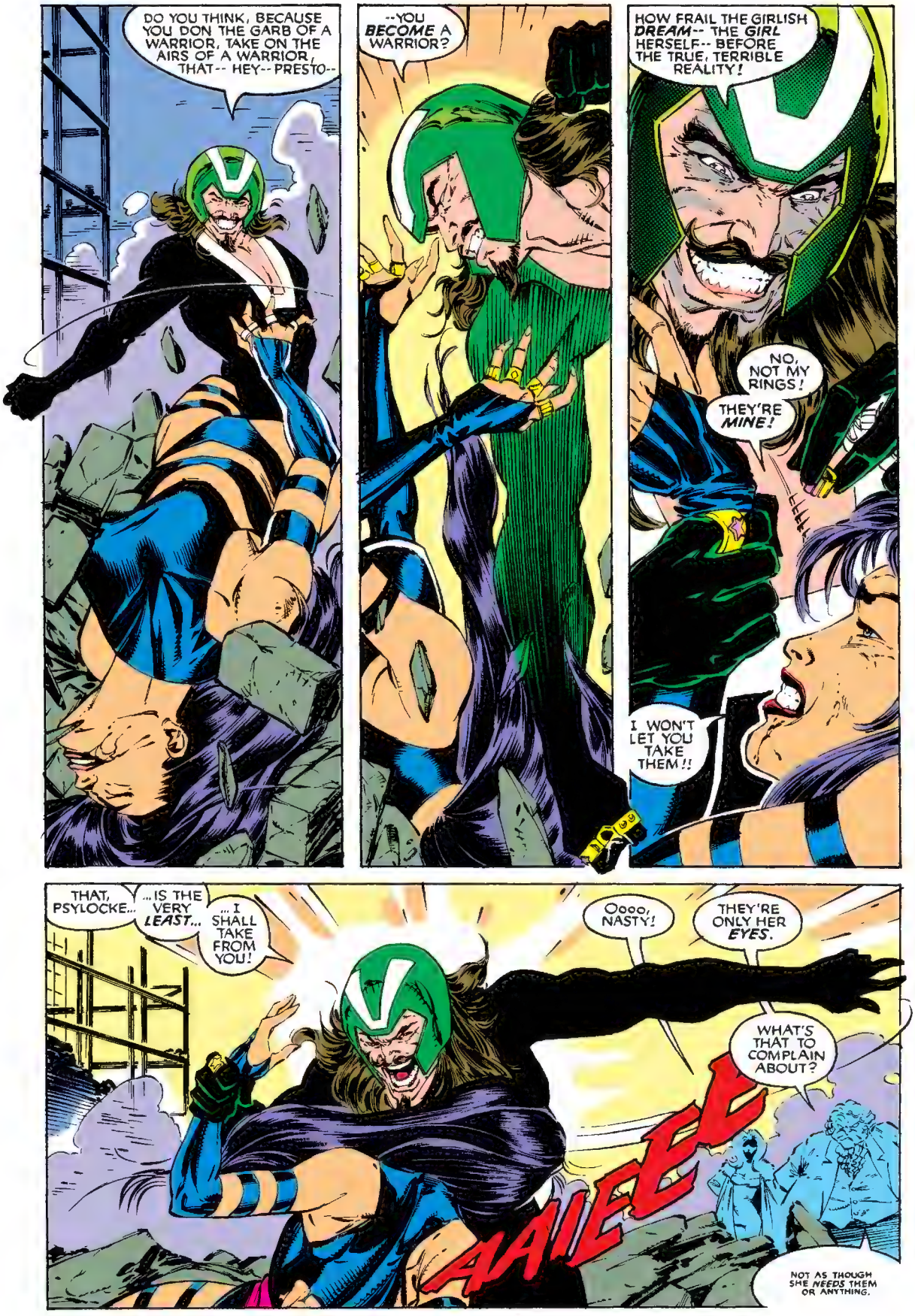
"GENOSHA.
GIVE IT UP, MUTANT, THERE'S NO PLACE FOR YOU TO RUN!
"WITH HAVOK FLEEING FROM THE PRESS GANG'S STRONG-WOMAN, PUNCHOUT, AND A SQUAD OF MAGISTRATES."
I'M RUNNING-- AND FIGHTING, LADY--
--TILL MY PEOPLE ARE FREE!
AND THIS STINKING SOCIETY OF YOURS-- THAT MAKES MUTANTS SLAVES--
--IS SMASHED TO DUST!
ONLY THING LIKELY TO BE SMASHED, LOVER...
...APPEARS TO BE YOU.
Ungnh!
SOME SORT OF BLACK LIGHT BEAM--
--MAGISTRATES SOUND LIKE THEY'RE BLINDED--
--BUT WHO?!!
ME.
NO!
YOU'RE HARDLY IN A POSITION TO REFUSE, ALEX.
GIVE ME THE "DISINTEGRATOR" RING.
I GIVE MY WORD I WON'T DROP YOU.
THAT'S MY BRIGHT, BRAVE BOY.
TRUSTING TO THE END.
BUT I'M A WOMAN OF MY WORD.
I WON'T DROP YOU.
ARRGH!


HOW "CONSIDERATE" OF CAROL DANVERS AND ROGUE TO SLAUGHTER THEMSELVES, AND SAVE ME THE TROUBLE.
STRANGE...
...HOW EASY THIS ALL IS.
SHOULDN'T IT HURT MORE?
WHY IS IT I FEEL ONLY...
...SATISFACTION?
FROM THEIR FACES, THESE TWO HATED EACH OTHER.
DO I HATE THE X-MEN--
--AND THE LIFE I LED WITH THEM?
WHY ELSE WOULD DESTROYING THEM...
...COME SO NATURALLY-- EH?!
Ahh, WOMAN... THOU ART BETRAYAL INCARNATE.
BY THE BY, IF YOU SEEK THE NINTH RING...
...YOUR BROTHER HAD IT.
BUT CAPTAIN BRITAIN WON'T BE NEEDING IT ANY LONGER.
THE "IMPACT BEAM" IS MINE, PSYLOCKE--
OWHW!
--AND SO NOW, MY PRETTY, AT LONG LAST, ARE YOU!
NNNOOOO!
IT CAN'T BE!


SLAYMASTER!
BUT YOU'RE--!
DEAD?
TELL ME, FOOLISH CHILD...
...DID YOU SEE THE BODY?
HA HA HA HA HA
I'M A MATCH FOR YOU!
I'M NOT JUST A TELEPATH ANYMORE! I'VE GOT REAL POWER!
AS A WISE MAN ONCE SAID...
...IT IS NOT THE WEAPON THAT MATTERS...
...BUT THE WARRIOR WHO WIELDS IT!
AIEAGGH!
TELL ME, EMISSARY...
...IS THIS PART OF YOUR SCENARIO?


THE SENSITIVE'S PHYSICAL TELEMETRY--FLUCTUATING WILDLY--AS THOUGH HE'S IN AN ACTUAL FIGHT!
IS SHE RESISTING YOUR INFLUENCE?
IMPOSSIBLE!
SHE SHOULD BE WELL ALONG THE WAY TO ELIMINATING ALL THE CRITICAL ELEMENTS AND RELATIONSHIPS OF HER PAST.
AN ONGOING, SPIRALING CIRCLE OF DECEPTION AND BETRAYAL THAT WILL BIND HER IRREVOCABLY TO THE HAND!
CULMINATING IN THE PERSONAL EXECUTION OF THOSE SHE LOVES-- AND ULTIMATELY, HER "HEROIC" SELF.


"BUT SOMETHING'S GOING WRONG.
"A RANDOM ELEMENT HAS ENTERED THE EQUATION.
"AND IT'S THREATENING TO KILL HER!"


DO YOU THINK, BECAUSE YOU DON THE GARB OF A WARRIOR, TAKE ON THE AIRS OF A WARRIOR, THAT-- HEY-- PRESTO--
--YOU BECOME A WARRIOR?
HOW FRAIL THE GIRLISH DREAM-- THE GIRL HERSELF-- BEFORE THE TRUE, TERRIBLE REALITY!
NO, NOT MY RINGS!
THEY'RE MINE!
I WON'T LET YOU TAKE THEM!!
THAT, PSYLOCKE...
...IS THE VERY LEAST...
... I SHALL TAKE FROM YOU!
Oooo, NASTY!
THEY'RE ONLY HER EYES.
WHAT'S THAT TO COMPLAIN ABOUT?
AAIEEE
NOT AS THOUGH SHE NEEDS THEM OR ANYTHING.

RUN TO GROUND AT LAST--THE POOR LITTLE RABBIT WHO PLAYED AT BEING A TIGER, TREMBLING NOW WITH TERROR TO DISCOVER SHE'S BEEN FOUND OUT.
YOU WERE DOOMED FROM THE START, DID YOU KNOW THAT?
IT WAS SO EASY TO BETRAY YOUR FRIENDS--BECAUSE YOU'D LONG AGO BETRAYED YOURSELF!
FAILING EVERYONE WHO EVER COUNTED ON YOU, UNABLE TO PROTECT THOSE YOU PROFESSED TO LOVE.
HOW COULD YOU? YOU CAN'T EVEN DEFEND YOURSELF!
NOT MY KIND OF ENDING AT ALL.
SO TWIST UP A REWRITE.
LIAR!
SKASH!
YOU WILL REGRET THIS FOLLY, GIRL.
YOU WILL SUFFER. AND KNOW SUCH PAIN--!
PERHAPS.
BUT I GUARANTEE, YOU'LL KNOW WORSE!
YOU'RE PARTLY RIGHT, SLAY-MASTER...
KWUD!
...I'LL GRANT YOU THAT.
I MAY EVEN BE GRATEFUL FOR IT.
SHAM!
IN MY WHOLE LIFE...
...I WAS NEVER REALLY--TRULY--TESTED!

I NEVER FOUGHT FOR MY LIFE-- AND WON!
WELL WELL WELL, WHAT HAVE WE HERE?
THERE'S MORE TO SLAYMASTER THAN IT SEEMS.
THAK!
THE "BLACK LIGHT" RING.
AN INGENIOUS STRATAGEM.
TOTALLY WASTED ON A BLIND TELEPATH.
I SEE WITH MY MIND, SILLY MAN, NOT MY EYES.
SHUCK!
YOU'RE DONE!
NEVER!
WHILE THE MANDARIN WEARS THESE SACRED RINGS, HE IS UNBEATABLE!
MY WILL-- AMPLIFIED A THOUSAND-FOLD BY MY "MENTO-INTENSI-FIER" BEAM--IS MORE THAN SUFFICIENT TO BRING EVEN YOU TO HEEL!
CAST ASIDE YOUR BOULDER, PSYLOCKE.
AND ACKNOWLEDGE THE MANDARIN...
...AS YOUR LORD AND MASTER.
NO.
YOUR MIND MAY CONTROL THE RING...
...BUT MINE-- THROUGH MY TELEPATHY...
...CONTROLS YOUR THOUGHTS.

ZARRGH!
WICKED WEE PSYLOCKE...
...HER DANCE IS ALMOST AS TWISTY-TURVY, SPIRAL, AS YOURS.
I'LL TAKE THAT AS A COMPLIMENT.
BUT NOW OUR GIRL'S WON THE DAY...
...WHAT COMES NEXT?
WHY, WE GIVE HER *INNER* EYES TO MATCH THE OUTER ONES WE GAVE HER LONG AGO...
... SO SHE CAN SEE-- AND ACT-- AS CLEARLY AS WE!
CAN'T WALK THE *WILDWAYS*, AFTER ALL...
"...WITHOUT *MOJO-EYES* TO SHOW THE WAY!"
THE OLD MAN IS DEAD.
SCUBA TEAM AS WELL!
UNFORTUNATE LOSSES, LORD...
...BUT, UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, ALTOGETHER ACCEPTABLE ONES.
WE *HAVE* HER, LORD.
AND THROUGH HER...
...WHO KNOWS, *eh*, EMISSARY?
I RETURN THESE RINGS--
--WON IN FAIR COMBAT--
--TO THEIR RIGHTFUL LORD AND MASTER..
...WHO HAS FOR NOW AND FOR ALL TIME...
...BECOME *MINE*.
WHO KNOWS, INDEED?!
NEXT: *LADY MANDARIN!*

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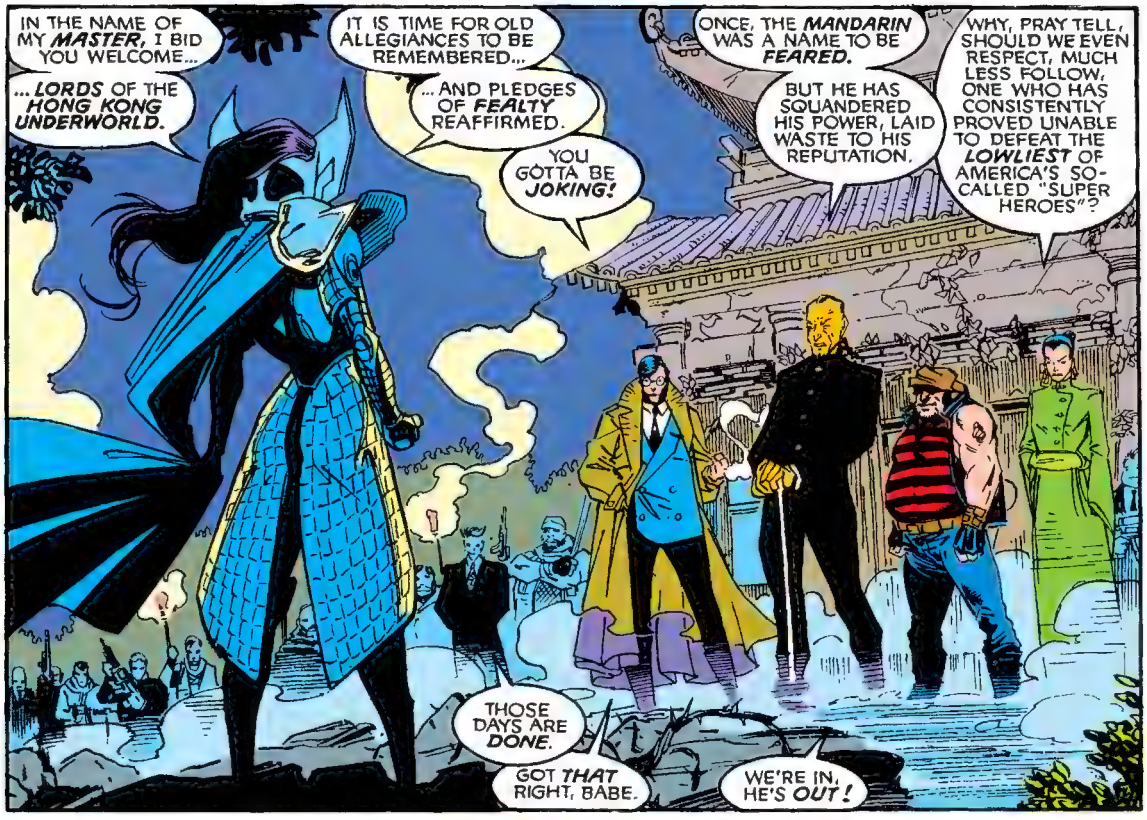
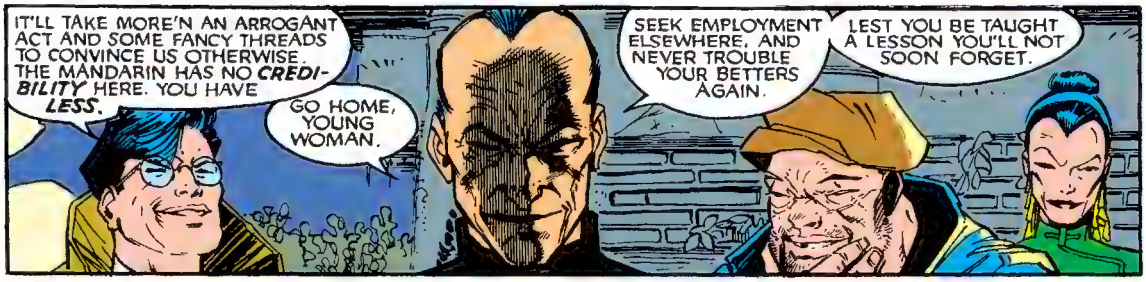
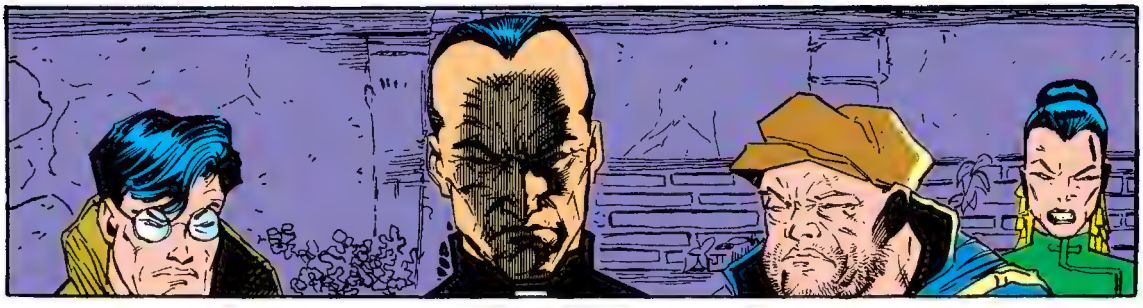
AUTHORITY
JIM LEE

A STAN LEE PRESENTATION
I AM
LADY MANDARIN
CHRIS CLAREMONT, WRITER
JIM LEE, PENCILER
JOSEF RUBINSTEIN, INKER
ALL AVAILABLE, LETTERERS
GLYNIS OLIVER, COLORIST
BOB HARRAS, EDITOR
TOM DeFALCO, EDITOR IN CHIEF
AN ACT OF VENGEANCE, STARRING THE UNCANNY X-MEN


IN THE NAME OF MY MASTER, I BID YOU WELCOME...
...LORDS OF THE HONG KONG UNDERWORLD.
IT IS TIME FOR OLD ALLEGIANCES TO BE REMEMBERED...
...AND PLEDGES OF FEALTY REAFFIRMED.
YOU GOTTA BE JOKING!
ONCE, THE MANDARIN WAS A NAME TO BE FEARED.
BUT HE HAS SQUANDERED HIS POWER, LAID WASTE TO HIS REPUTATION.
WHY, PRAY TELL, SHOULD WE EVEN RESPECT, MUCH LESS FOLLOW, ONE WHO HAS CONSISTENTLY PROVED UNABLE TO DEFEAT THE LOWLIEST OF AMERICA'S SO-CALLED "SUPER HEROES"?
THOSE DAYS ARE DONE.
GOT THAT RIGHT, BABE.
WE'RE IN, HE'S OUT!

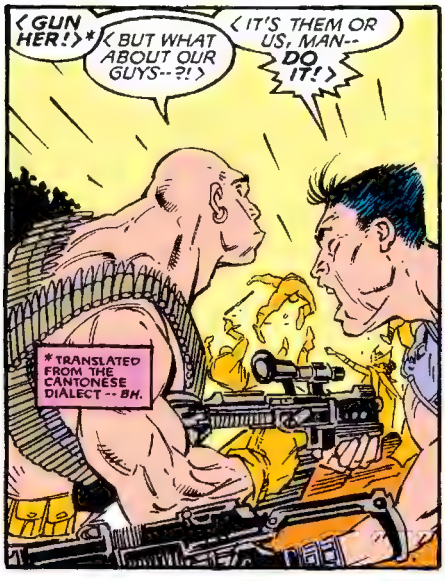

IT'LL TAKE MORE'N AN ARROGANT ACT AND SOME FANCY THREADS TO CONVINCE US OTHERWISE. THE MANDARIN HAS NO CREDIBILITY HERE. YOU HAVE LESS.
GO HOME, YOUNG WOMAN.
SEEK EMPLOYMENT ELSEWHERE, AND NEVER TROUBLE YOUR BETTERS AGAIN.
LEST YOU BE TAUGHT A LESSON YOU'LL NOT SOON FORGET.

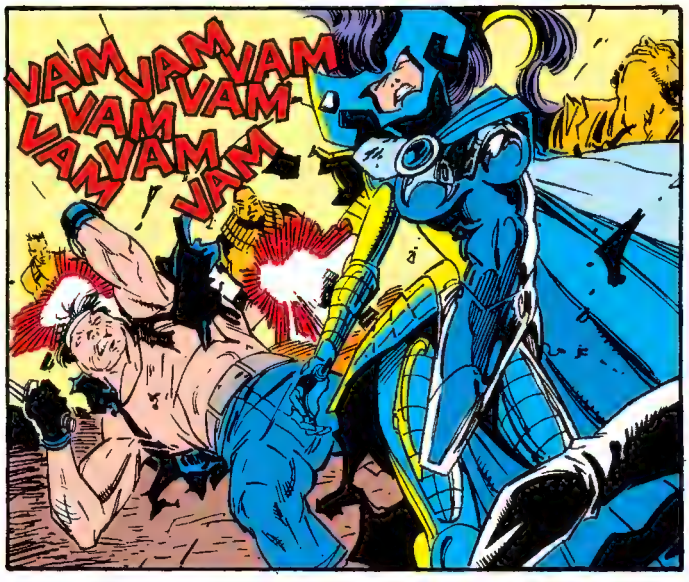
HOW AMUSING.
I WAS ABOUT TO SAY THE SAME TO YOU.



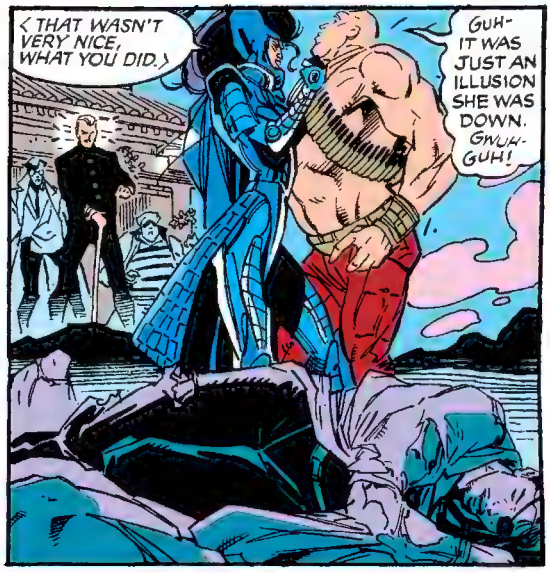
SO BE IT.
KILL HER.
TO GIVE THEM CREDIT...
...THE HENCHMEN TRY THEIR VERY BEST.
ZARM
KRAK
AUGH!
KIAI!
KWUD
SOK!

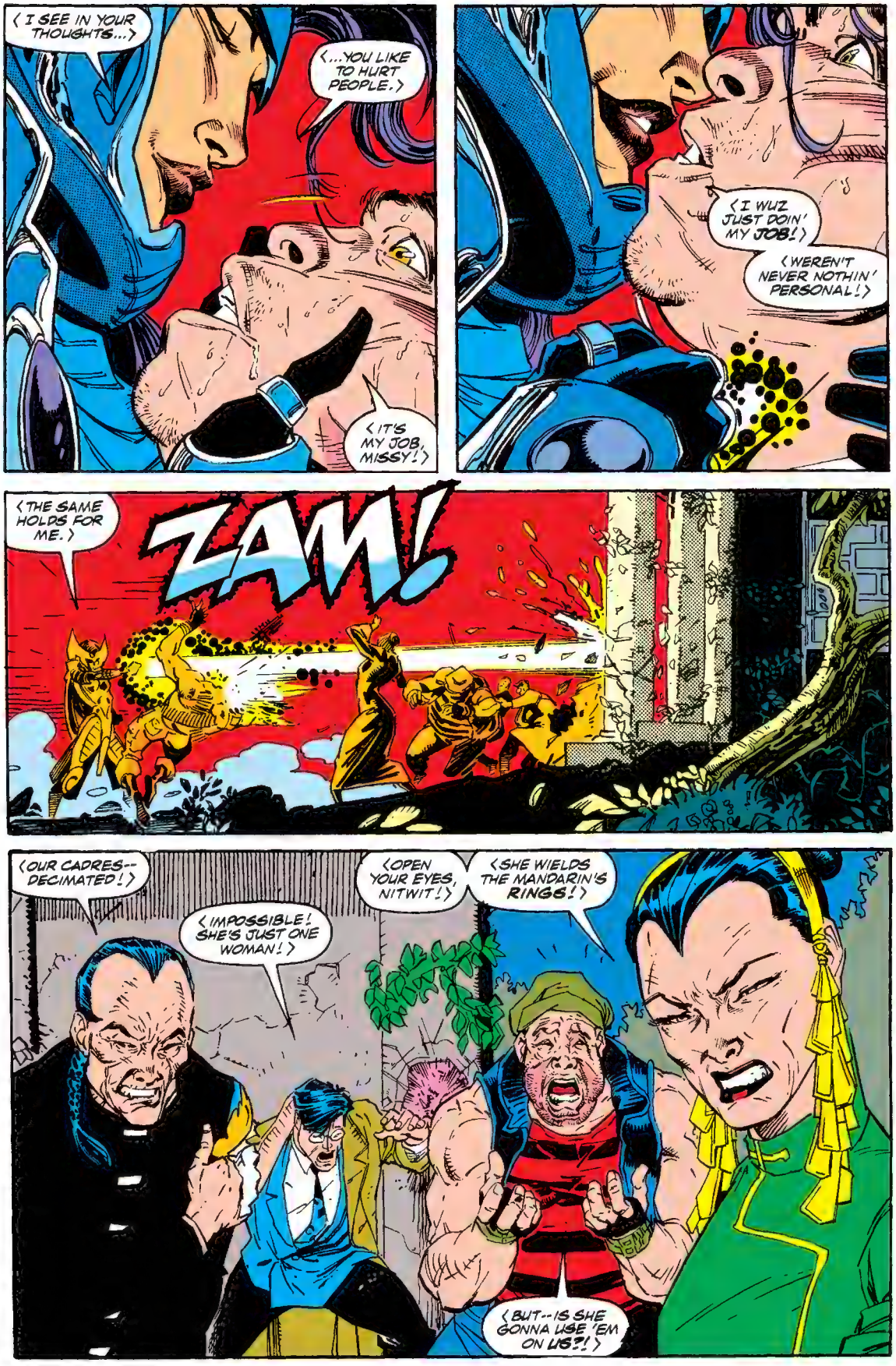
BRAAP
FAZSZH!
RAKOW!

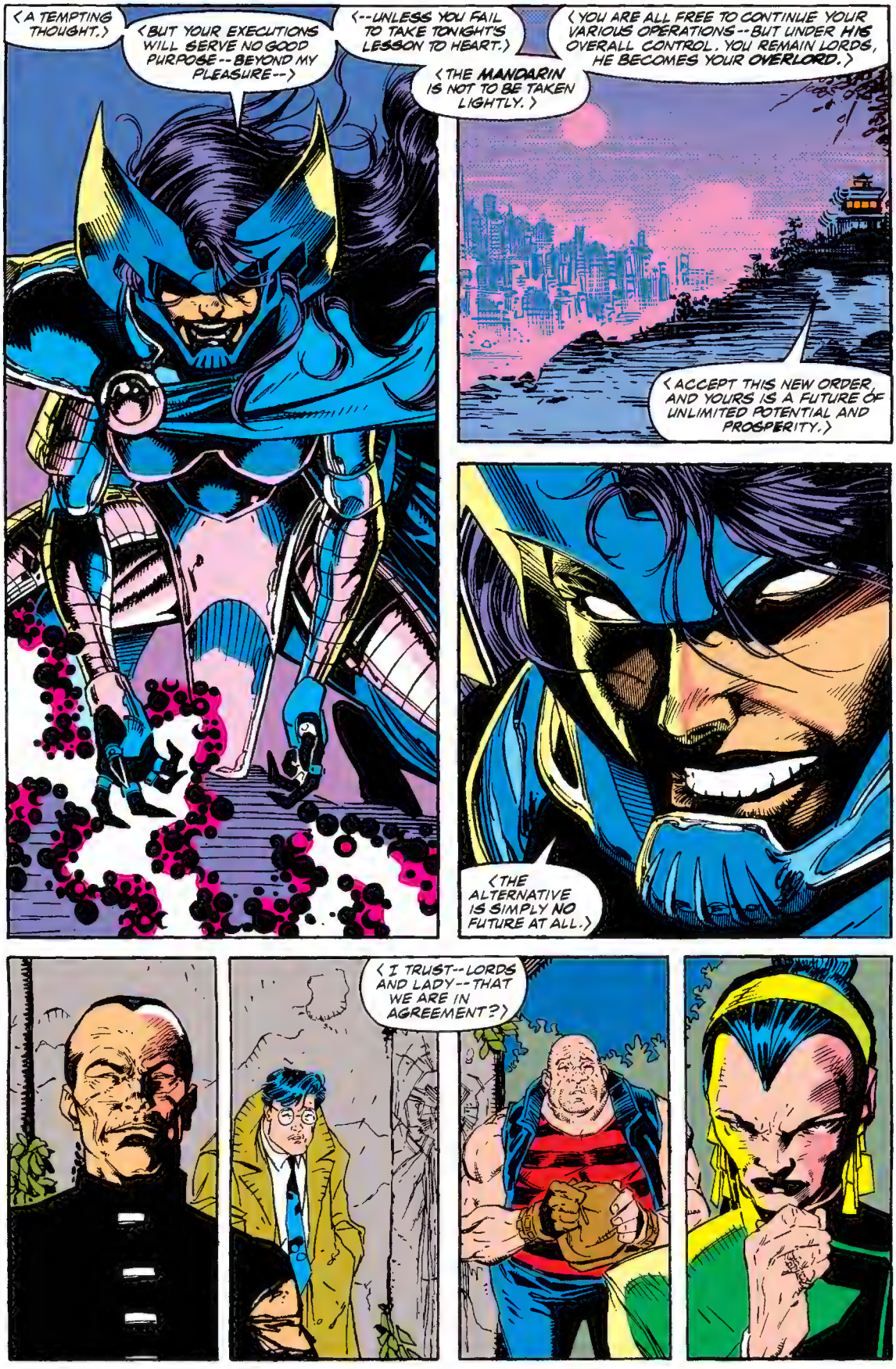

〈GUN HER!〉*
〈BUT WHAT ABOUT OUR GUYS--?!〉
〈IT'S THEM OR US, MAN-- DO IT!〉
*TRANSLATED FROM THE CANTONESE DIALECT -- BH.

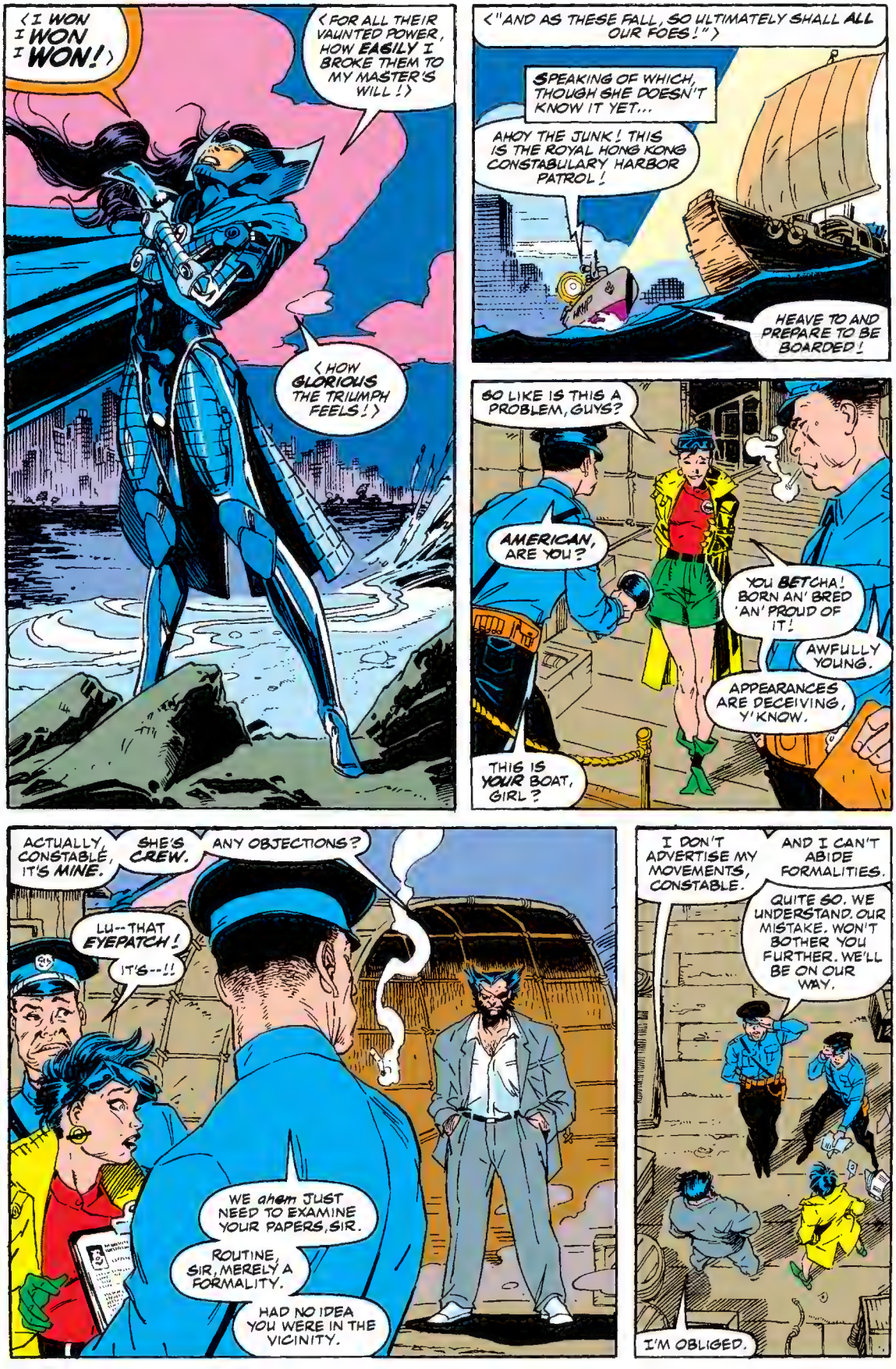

VAM VAM VAM
VAM VAM VAM
VAM VAM VAM

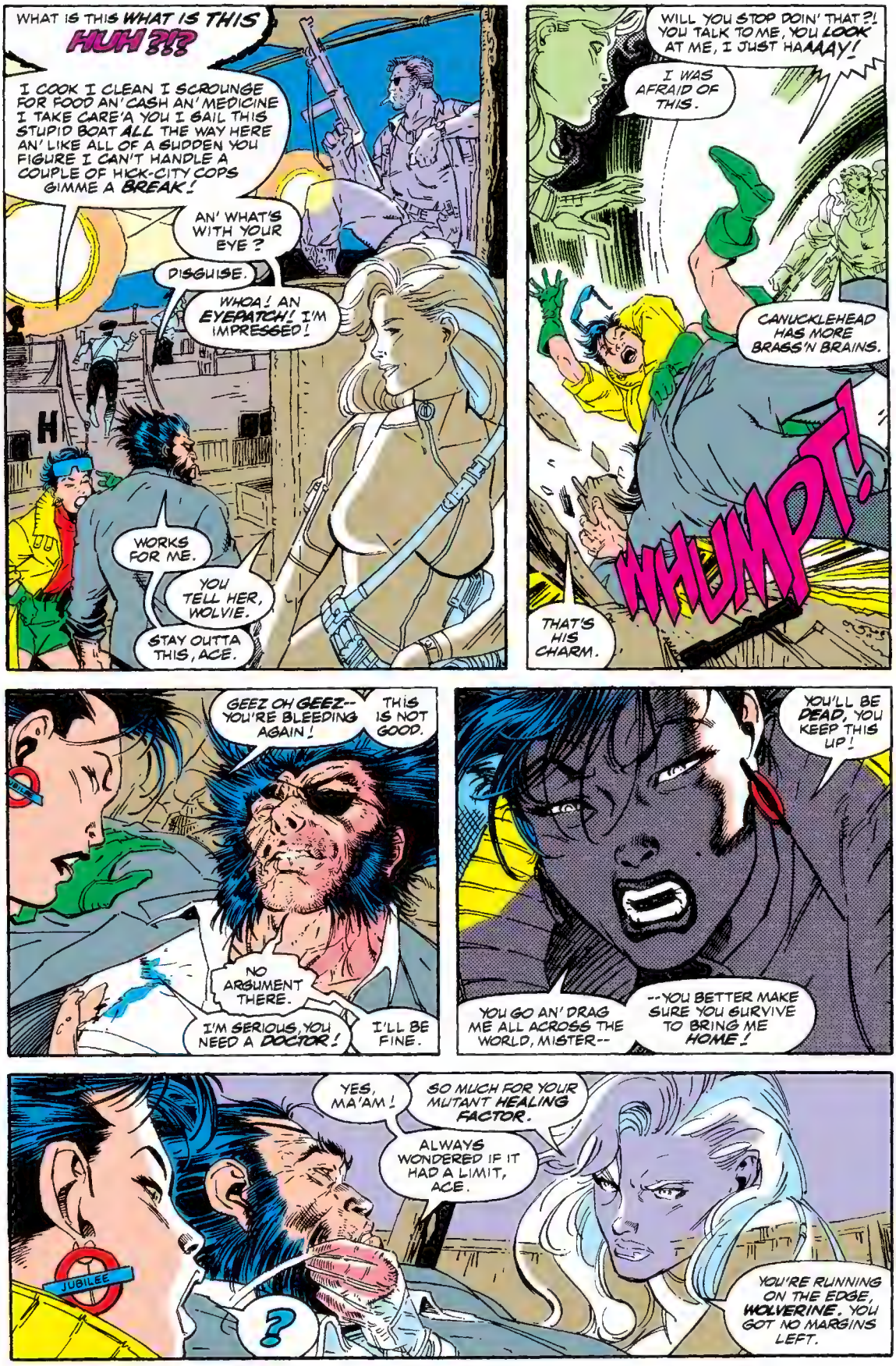
〈A REGRETTABLE SACRIFICE-- BUT NECESSARY.〉
〈BETTER MAKE SURE.
〈YOU KIDDIN'? I POPPED A WHOLE BOX'A CAPS. NO WAY SHE COULDA'--!〉

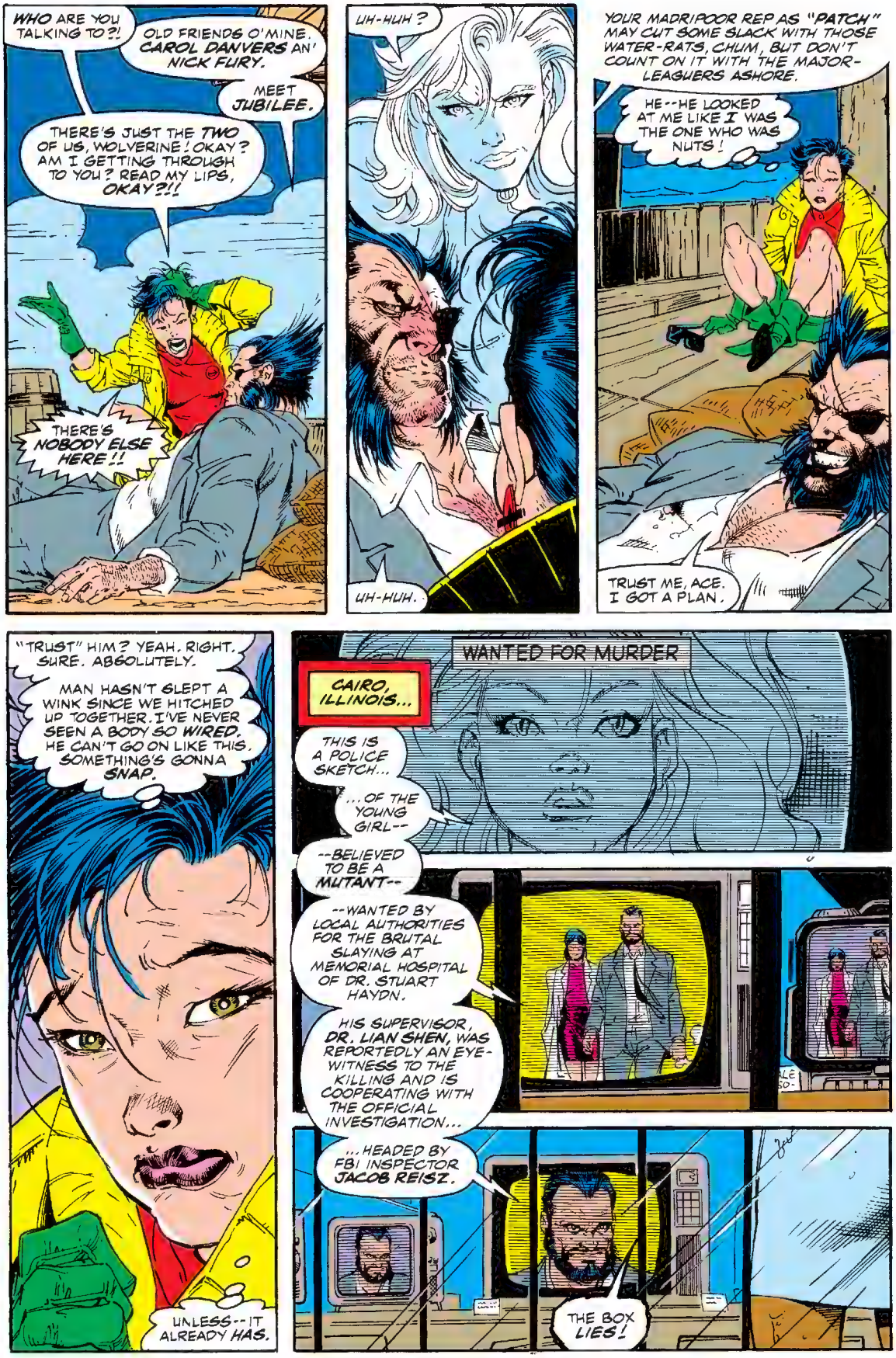

〈THAT WASN'T VERY NICE, WHAT YOU DID.〉
GUH- IT WAS JUST AN ILLUSION SHE WAS DOWN. GNUH- GUH!

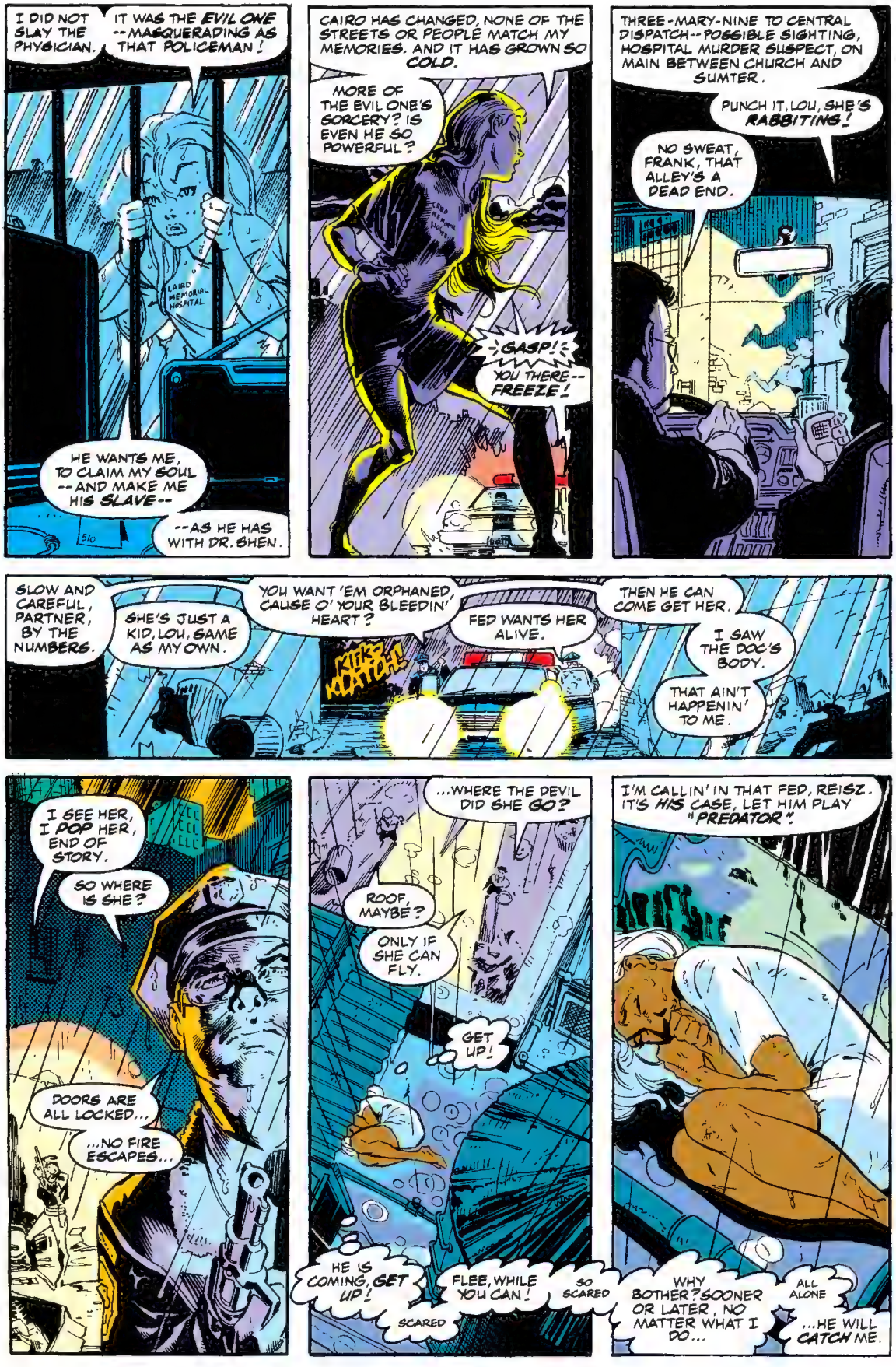

〈I SEE IN YOUR THOUGHTS...〉
〈...YOU LIKE TO HURT PEOPLE.〉
〈IT'S MY JOB, MISSY!〉
〈I WUZ JUST DOIN' MY JOB!〉
〈WEREN'T NEVER NOTHIN' PERSONAL!〉
〈THE SAME HOLDS FOR ME.〉
ZAM!
〈OUR CADRES--DECIMATED!〉
〈IMPOSSIBLE! SHE'S JUST ONE WOMAN!〉
〈OPEN YOUR EYES, NITWIT!〉
〈SHE WIELDS THE MANDARIN'S RINGS!〉
〈BUT--IS SHE GONNA USE 'EM ON US?!〉

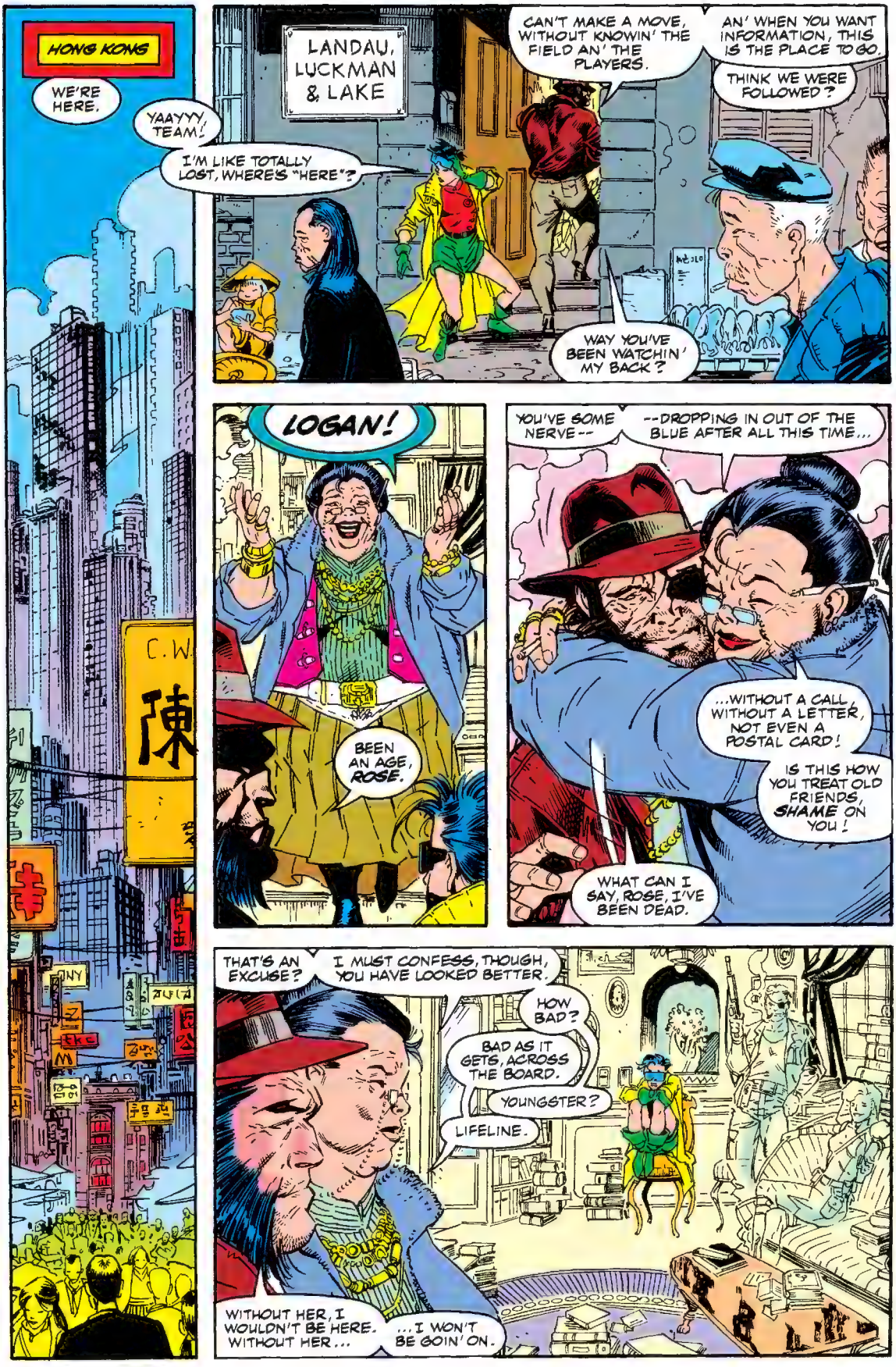

〈A TEMPTING THOUGHT.〉
〈BUT YOUR EXECUTIONS WILL SERVE NO GOOD PURPOSE--BEYOND MY PLEASURE--〉
〈--UNLESS YOU FAIL TO TAKE TONIGHT'S LESSON TO HEART.〉
〈THE MANDARIN IS NOT TO BE TAKEN LIGHTLY.〉
〈YOU ARE ALL FREE TO CONTINUE YOUR VARIOUS OPERATIONS--BUT UNDER HIS OVERALL CONTROL. YOU REMAIN LORDS, HE BECOMES YOUR OVERLORD.〉
〈ACCEPT THIS NEW ORDER, AND YOURS IS A FUTURE OF UNLIMITED POTENTIAL AND PROSPERITY.〉
〈THE ALTERNATIVE IS SIMPLY NO FUTURE AT ALL.〉
〈I TRUST--LORDS AND LADY--THAT WE ARE IN AGREEMENT?〉

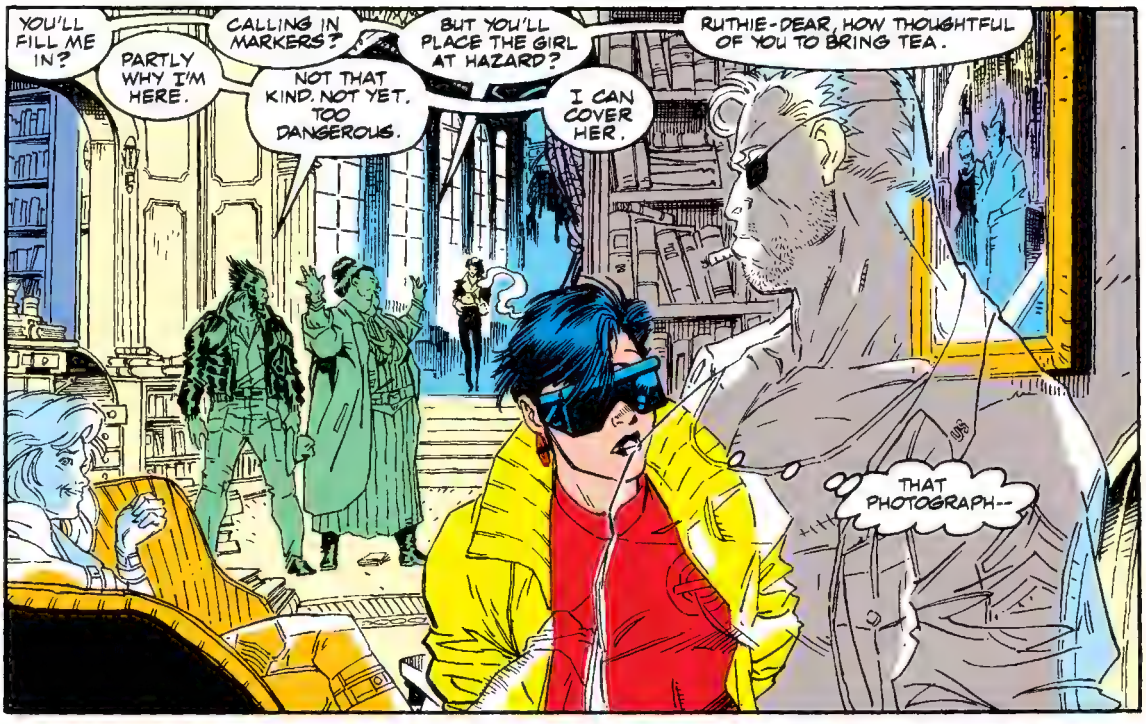

〈I WON I WON I WON!〉
〈FOR ALL THEIR VAUNTED POWER, HOW EASILY I BROKE THEM TO MY MASTER'S WILL!〉
〈HOW GLORIOUS THE TRIUMPH FEELS!〉
〈"AND AS THESE FALL, SO ULTIMATELY SHALL ALL OUR FOES!"〉
SPEAKING OF WHICH, THOUGH SHE DOESN'T KNOW IT YET...
AHOY THE JUNK! THIS IS THE ROYAL HONG KONG CONSTABULARY HARBOR PATROL!
HEAVE TO AND PREPARE TO BE BOARDED!
SO LIKE IS THIS A PROBLEM, GUYS?
AMERICAN, ARE YOU?
YOU BETCHA! BORN AN' BRED 'AN' PROUD OF IT!
AWFULLY YOUNG.
APPEARANCES ARE DECEIVING, Y'KNOW.
THIS IS YOUR BOAT, GIRL?
ACTUALLY, CONSTABLE, IT'S MINE.
SHE'S CREW.
ANY OBJECTIONS?
LU--THAT EYEPATCH!
IT'S--!!
WE ahem JUST NEED TO EXAMINE YOUR PAPERS, SIR.
ROUTINE, SIR, MERELY A FORMALITY.
HAD NO IDEA YOU WERE IN THE VICINITY.
I DON'T ADVERTISE MY MOVEMENTS, CONSTABLE.
AND I CAN'T ABIDE FORMALITIES.
QUITE SO. WE UNDERSTAND. OUR MISTAKE. WON'T BOTHER YOU FURTHER. WE'LL BE ON OUR WAY.
I'M OBLIGED.

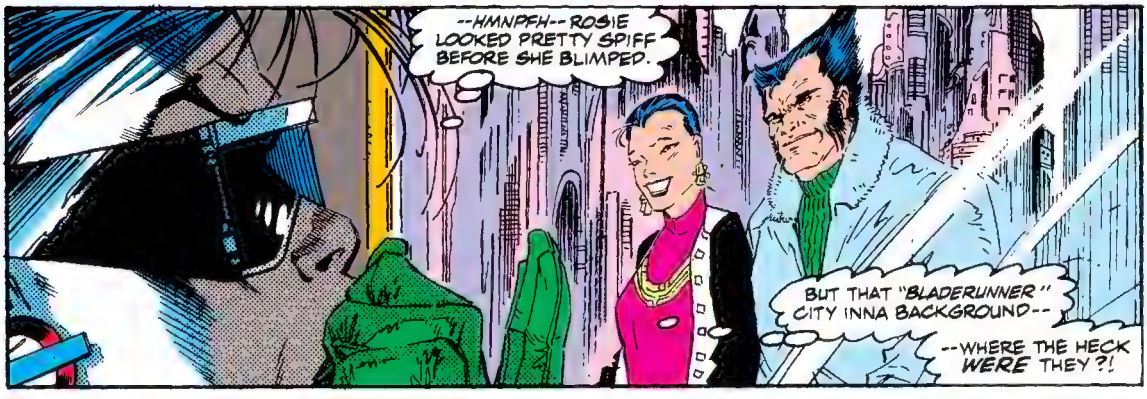

WHAT IS THIS WHAT IS THIS HUH?!?
I COOK I CLEAN I SCROUNGE FOR FOOD AN' CASH AN' MEDICINE I TAKE CARE'A YOU I SAIL THIS STUPID BOAT ALL THE WAY HERE AN' LIKE ALL OF A SUDDEN YOU FIGURE I CAN'T HANDLE A COUPLE OF HICK-CITY COPS GIMME A BREAK!
AN' WHAT'S WITH YOUR EYE?
DISGUISE.
WHOA! AN EYEPATCH! I'M IMPRESSED!
WORKS FOR ME.
YOU TELL HER, WOLVIE.
STAY OUTTA THIS, ACE.
WILL YOU STOP DOIN' THAT?! YOU TALK TO ME, YOU LOOK AT ME, I JUST HAAAAY!
I WAS AFRAID OF THIS.
CANUCKLEHEAD HAS MORE BRASS'N BRAINS.
WHUMPT!
THAT'S HIS CHARM.
GEEZ OH GEEZ-- YOU'RE BLEEDING AGAIN!
THIS IS NOT GOOD.
NO ARGUMENT THERE.
I'M SERIOUS, YOU NEED A DOCTOR!
I'LL BE FINE.
YOU'LL BE DEAD, YOU KEEP THIS UP!
YOU GO AN' DRAG ME ALL ACROSS THE WORLD, MISTER--
--YOU BETTER MAKE SURE YOU SURVIVE TO BRING ME HOME!
YES, MA'AM!
SO MUCH FOR YOUR MUTANT HEALING FACTOR.
ALWAYS WONDERED IF IT HAD A LIMIT, ACE.
JUBILEE
?
YOU'RE RUNNING ON THE EDGE, WOLVERINE. YOU GOT NO MARGINS LEFT.

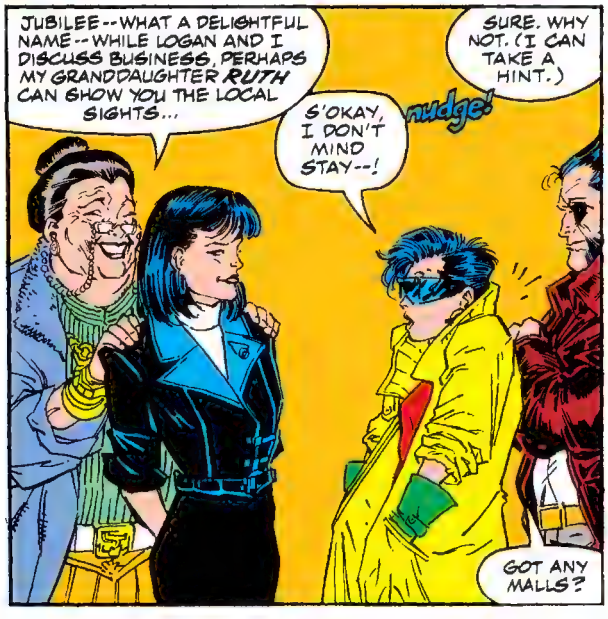

WHO ARE YOU TALKING TO?!
OLD FRIENDS O'MINE. CAROL DANVERS AN' NICK FURY.
MEET JUBILEE.
THERE'S JUST THE TWO OF US, WOLVERINE! OKAY? AM I GETTING THROUGH TO YOU? READ MY LIPS, OKAY?!!
THERE'S NOBODY ELSE HERE!!
UH-HUH?
UH-HUH.
YOUR MADRIPOOR REP AS "PATCH" MAY CUT SOME SLACK WITH THOSE WATER-RATS, CHUM, BUT DON'T COUNT ON IT WITH THE MAJOR-LEAGUERS ASHORE.
HE--HE LOOKED AT ME LIKE I WAS THE ONE WHO WAS NUTS!
TRUST ME, ACE. I GOT A PLAN.
"TRUST" HIM? YEAH. RIGHT. SURE. ABSOLUTELY.
MAN HASN'T SLEPT A WINK SINCE WE HITCHED UP TOGETHER. I'VE NEVER SEEN A BODY SO WIRED. HE CAN'T GO ON LIKE THIS. SOMETHING'S GONNA SNAP.
UNLESS--IT ALREADY HAS.
WANTED FOR MURDER
CAIRO, ILLINOIS...
THIS IS A POLICE SKETCH...
...OF THE YOUNG GIRL--
--BELIEVED TO BE A MUTANT--
--WANTED BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES FOR THE BRUTAL SLAYING AT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL OF DR. STUART HAYDN.
HIS SUPERVISOR, DR. LIAN SHEN, WAS REPORTEDLY AN EYE-WITNESS TO THE KILLING AND IS COOPERATING WITH THE OFFICIAL INVESTIGATION...
...HEADED BY FBI INSPECTOR JACOB REISZ.
THE BOX LIES!


I DID NOT SLAY THE PHYSICIAN.
IT WAS THE EVIL ONE --MASQUERADING AS THAT POLICEMAN!
LAIRD MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
HE WANTS ME, TO CLAIM MY SOUL --AND MAKE ME HIS SLAVE--
--AS HE HAS WITH DR. SHEN.
CAIRO HAS CHANGED, NONE OF THE STREETS OR PEOPLE MATCH MY MEMORIES. AND IT HAS GROWN SO COLD.
MORE OF THE EVIL ONE'S SORCERY? IS EVEN HE SO POWERFUL?
-GASP!-
YOU THERE-- FREEZE!
THREE-MARY-NINE TO CENTRAL DISPATCH--POSSIBLE SIGHTING, HOSPITAL MURDER SUSPECT, ON MAIN BETWEEN CHURCH AND SUMTER.
PUNCH IT, LOU, SHE'S RABBITING!
NO SWEAT, FRANK, THAT ALLEY'S A DEAD END.
SLOW AND CAREFUL, PARTNER, BY THE NUMBERS.
SHE'S JUST A KID, LOU, SAME AS MY OWN.
YOU WANT 'EM ORPHANED, CAUSE O' YOUR BLEEDIN' HEART?
KLIKK-KLATCH!
FED WANTS HER ALIVE.
THEN HE CAN COME GET HER.
I SAW THE DOC'S BODY.
THAT AIN'T HAPPENIN' TO ME.
I SEE HER, I POP HER, END OF STORY.
SO WHERE IS SHE?
DOORS ARE ALL LOCKED...
...NO FIRE ESCAPES...
...WHERE THE DEVIL DID SHE GO?
ROOF, MAYBE?
ONLY IF SHE CAN FLY.
GET UP!
HE IS COMING, GET UP!
SCARED
FLEE, WHILE YOU CAN!
SO SCARED
I'M CALLIN' IN THAT FED, REISZ. IT'S HIS CASE, LET HIM PLAY "PREDATOR"!
WHY BOTHER? SOONER OR LATER, NO MATTER WHAT I DO...
ALL ALONE
...HE WILL CATCH ME.

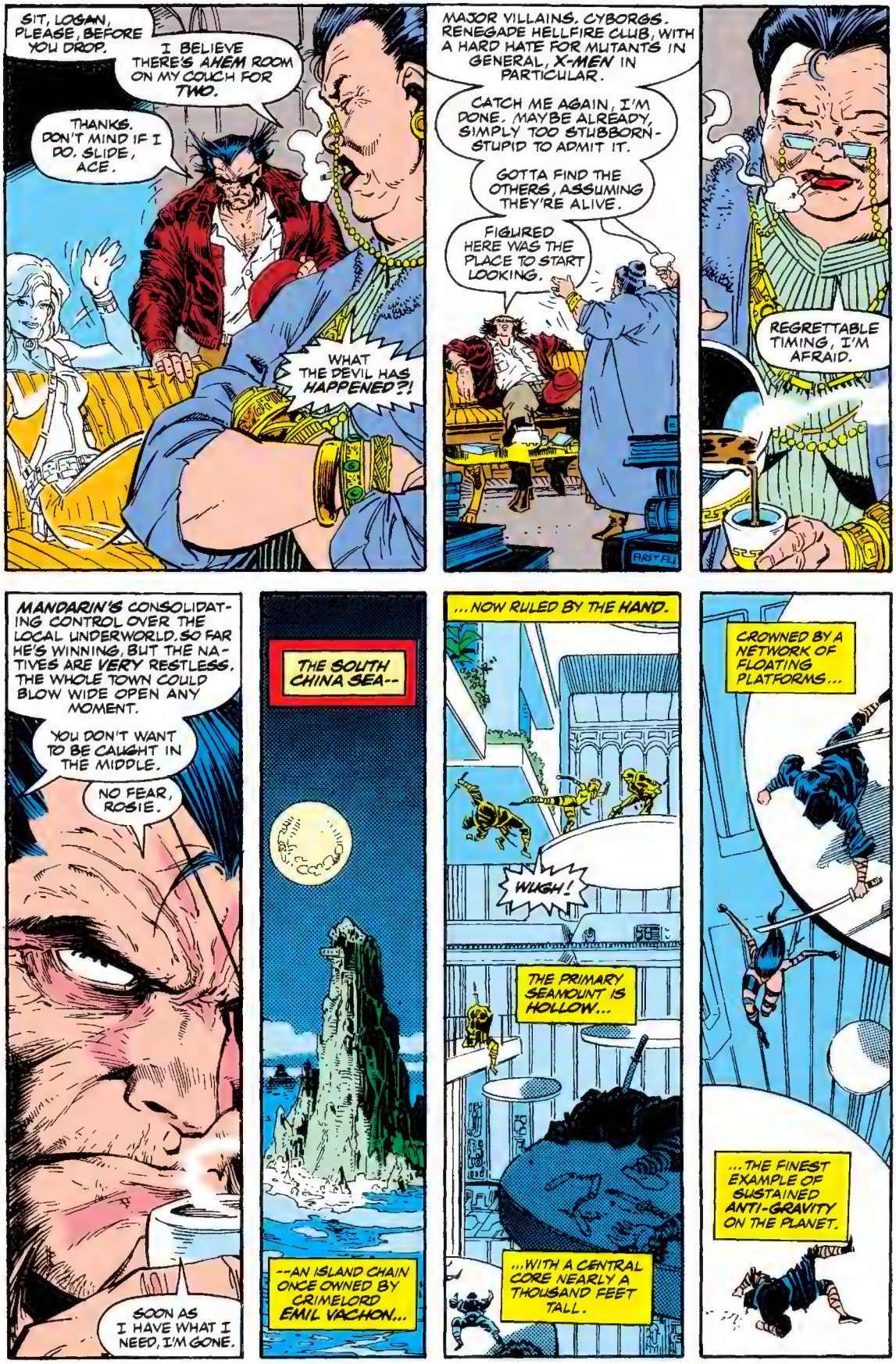

HONG KONG
WE'RE HERE.
YAAYYY, TEAM!
I'M LIKE TOTALLY LOST, WHERE'S "HERE"?
LANDAU, LUCKMAN & LAKE
CAN'T MAKE A MOVE, WITHOUT KNOWIN' THE FIELD AN' THE PLAYERS.
AN' WHEN YOU WANT INFORMATION, THIS IS THE PLACE TO GO.
THINK WE WERE FOLLOWED?
WAY YOU'VE BEEN WATCHIN' MY BACK?
LOGAN!
BEEN AN AGE, ROSE.
YOU'VE SOME NERVE--
--DROPPING IN OUT OF THE BLUE AFTER ALL THIS TIME...
...WITHOUT A CALL, WITHOUT A LETTER, NOT EVEN A POSTAL CARD!
IS THIS HOW YOU TREAT OLD FRIENDS, SHAME ON YOU!
WHAT CAN I SAY, ROSE, I'VE BEEN DEAD.
THAT'S AN EXCUSE?
I MUST CONFESS, THOUGH, YOU HAVE LOOKED BETTER.
HOW BAD?
BAD AS IT GETS, ACROSS THE BOARD.
YOUNGSTER?
LIFELINE.
WITHOUT HER, I WOULDN'T BE HERE. WITHOUT HER...
...I WON'T BE GOIN' ON.


YOU'LL FILL ME IN?
PARTLY WHY I'M HERE.
CALLING IN MARKERS?
NOT THAT KIND. NOT YET. TOO DANGEROUS.
BUT YOU'LL PLACE THE GIRL AT HAZARD?
I CAN COVER HER.
RUTHIE-DEAR, HOW THOUGHTFUL OF YOU TO BRING TEA.
THAT PHOTOGRAPH--

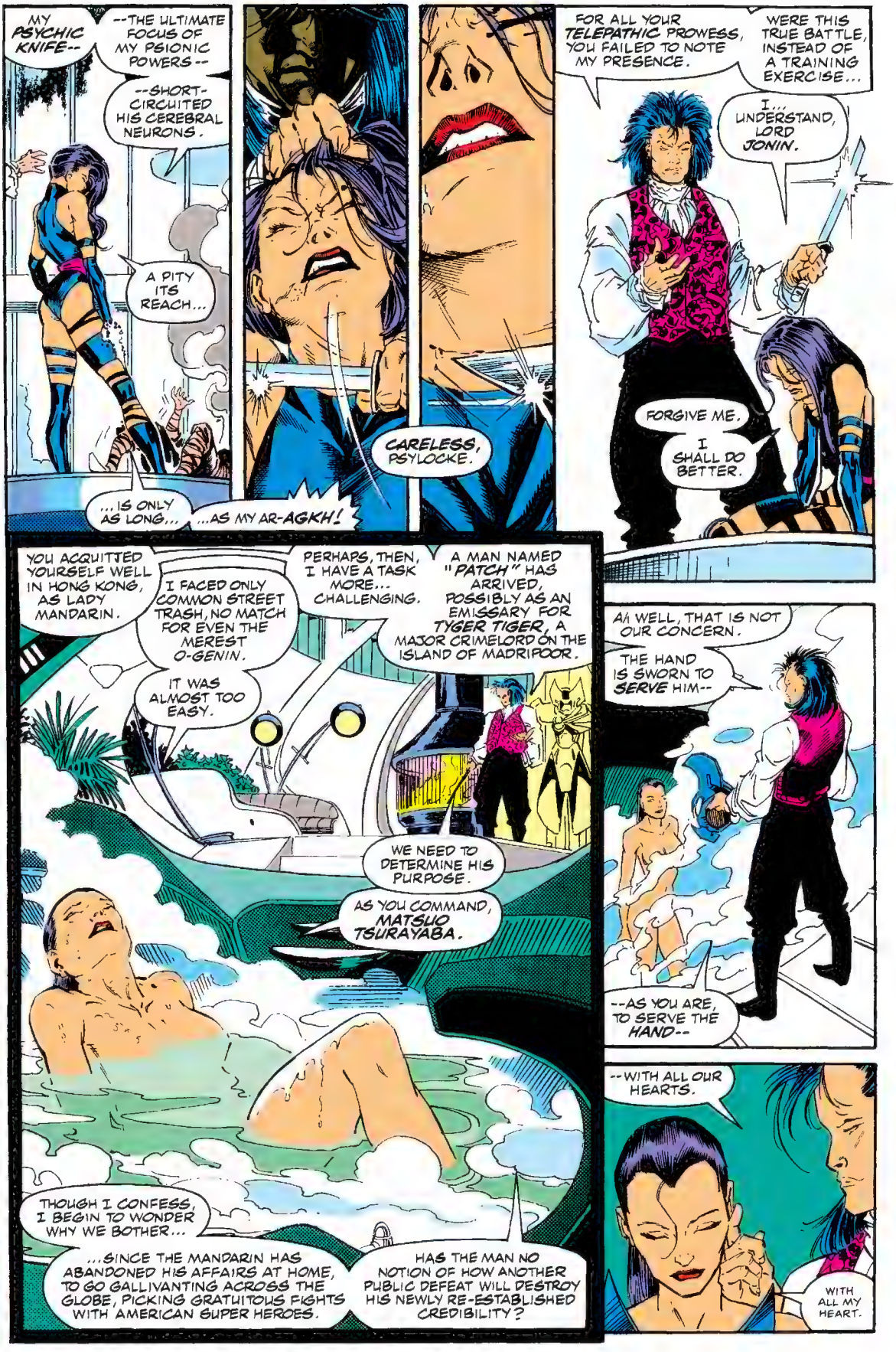

--HMNPFH-- ROSIE LOOKED PRETTY SPIFF BEFORE SHE BLIMPED.
BUT THAT "BLADERUNNER" CITY INNA BACKGROUND--
--WHERE THE HECK WERE THEY?!

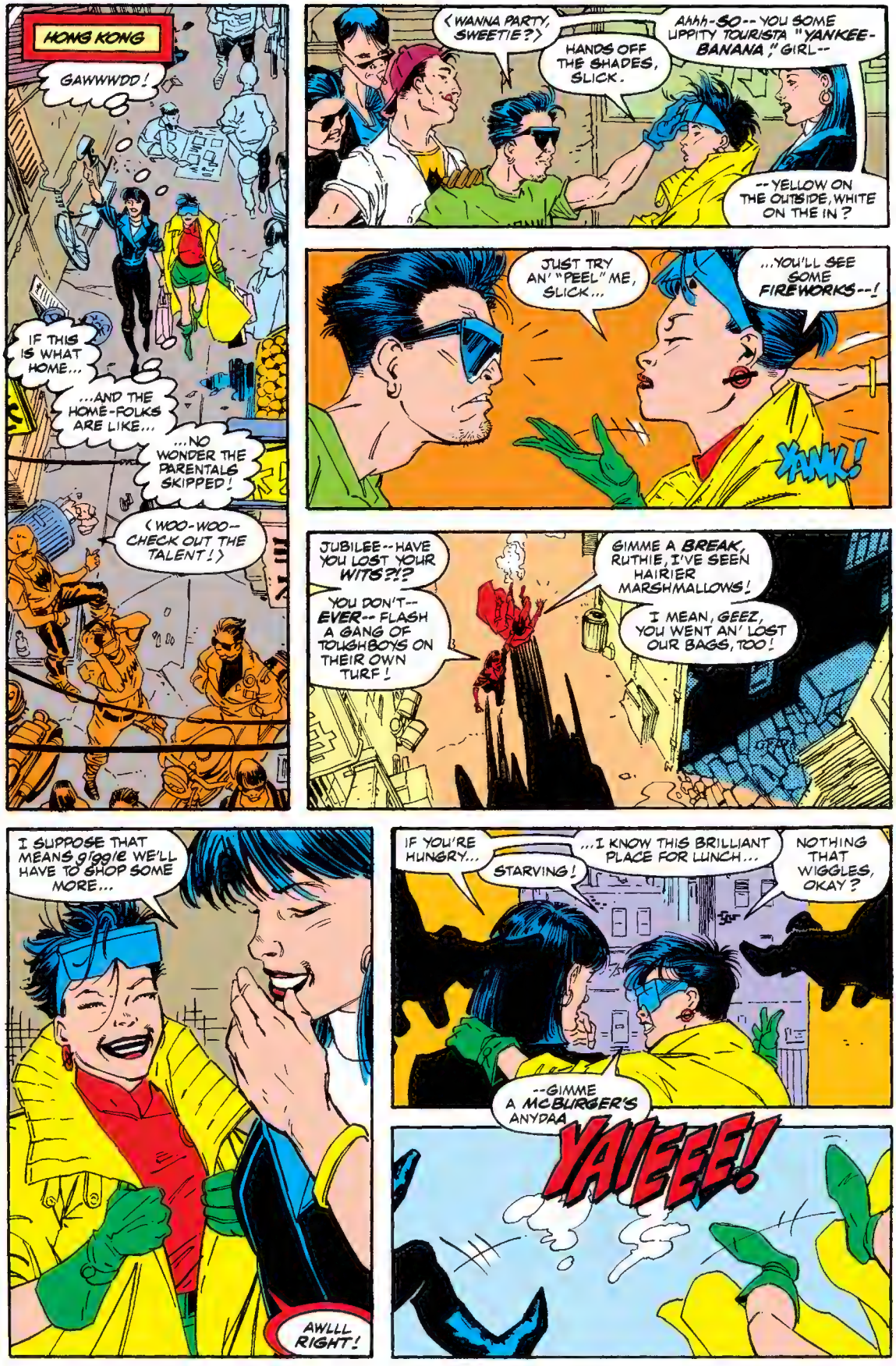

JUBILEE--WHAT A DELIGHTFUL NAME--WHILE LOGAN AND I DISCUSS BUSINESS, PERHAPS MY GRANDDAUGHTER RUTH CAN SHOW YOU THE LOCAL SIGHTS...
SURE. WHY NOT. (I CAN TAKE A HINT.)
S'OKAY, I DON'T MIND STAY--!
nudge!
GOT ANY MALLS?

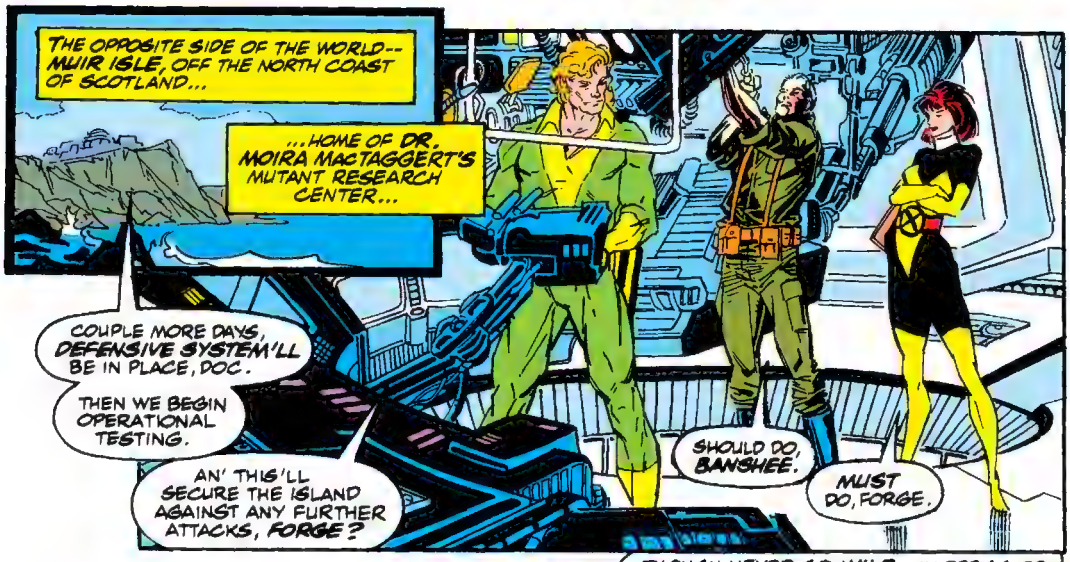
THIS WHOLE TOWN'S A MALL! SHOPPER'S PARADISE!
THIS IT, THEN?
WHAT JOY!
SAYONARA, SUCKER? YOUR WAY OF DITCHIN' ME, WOLVIE?
HEY, I'M A BIG GIRL, I CAN HANDLE REJECTION.
CREEP.

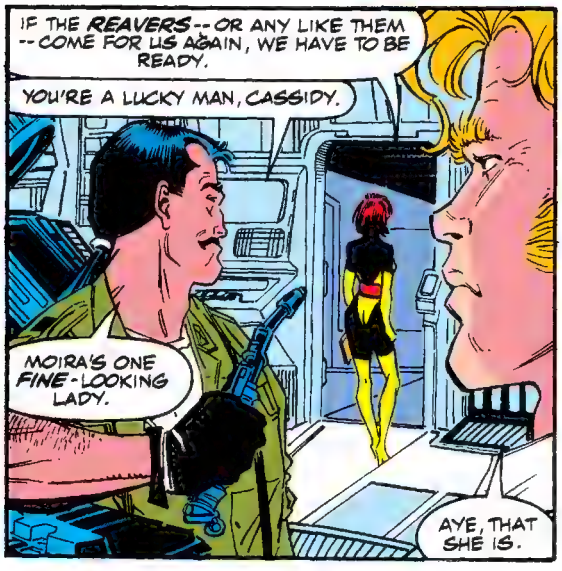

SIT, LOGAN, PLEASE, BEFORE YOU DROP.
I BELIEVE THERE'S AHEM ROOM ON MY COUCH FOR TWO.
THANKS. DON'T MIND IF I DO. SLIDE, ACE.
WHAT THE DEVIL HAS HAPPENED?!
MAJOR VILLAINS. CYBORGS. RENEGADE HELLFIRE CLUB, WITH A HARD HATE FOR MUTANTS IN GENERAL, X-MEN IN PARTICULAR.
CATCH ME AGAIN, I'M DONE. MAYBE ALREADY, SIMPLY TOO STUBBORN-STUPID TO ADMIT IT.
GOTTA FIND THE OTHERS, ASSUMING THEY'RE ALIVE.
FIGURED HERE WAS THE PLACE TO START LOOKING.
REGRETTABLE TIMING, I'M AFRAID.
MANDARIN'S CONSOLIDATING CONTROL OVER THE LOCAL UNDERWORLD. SO FAR HE'S WINNING, BUT THE NATIVES ARE VERY RESTLESS. THE WHOLE TOWN COULD BLOW WIDE OPEN ANY MOMENT.
YOU DON'T WANT TO BE CAUGHT IN THE MIDDLE.
NO FEAR, ROSIE.
SOON AS I HAVE WHAT I NEED, I'M GONE.
THE SOUTH CHINA SEA--
--AN ISLAND CHAIN ONCE OWNED BY CRIMELORD EMIL VACHON...
...NOW RULED BY THE HAND.
WUGH!
THE PRIMARY SEAMOUNT IS HOLLOW...
...WITH A CENTRAL CORE NEARLY A THOUSAND FEET TALL.
CROWNED BY A NETWORK OF FLOATING PLATFORMS...
...THE FINEST EXAMPLE OF SUSTAINED ANTI-GRAVITY ON THE PLANET.

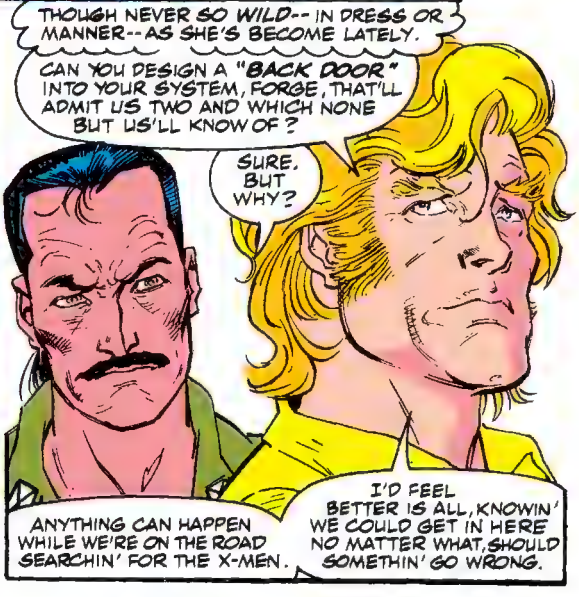
ONE SLIP, THE SLIGHTEST MISSTEP, MEANS DISASTER.
OWHW!
KIA!
FOOLISH GENIN...
...DID YOU THINK ME SO TIRED FROM THE DUEL...
...IS YOURS!
THE MISTAKE, ASSASSIN...
SWOOSH!
...I'D MADE A FATAL MISTAKE?
KTANG!

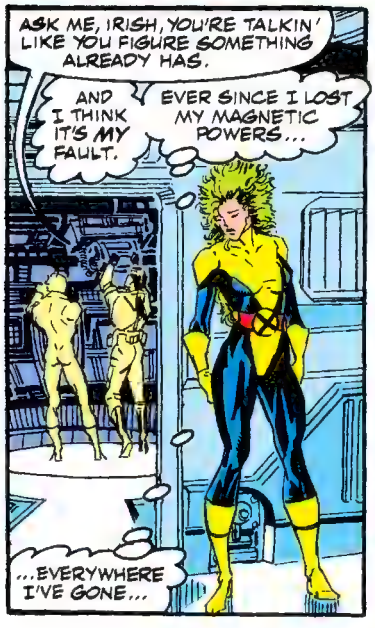

MY PSYCHIC KNIFE--
--THE ULTIMATE FOCUS OF MY PSIONIC POWERS--
--SHORT-CIRCUITED HIS CEREBRAL NEURONS.
A PITY ITS REACH...
...IS ONLY AS LONG...
...AS MY AR-AGKH!
CARELESS, PSYLOCKE.
FOR ALL YOUR TELEPATHIC PROWESS, YOU FAILED TO NOTE MY PRESENCE.
WERE THIS TRUE BATTLE, INSTEAD OF A TRAINING EXERCISE...
I... UNDERSTAND, LORD JONIN.
FORGIVE ME.
I SHALL DO BETTER.
YOU ACQUITTED YOURSELF WELL IN HONG KONG, AS LADY MANDARIN.
I FACED ONLY COMMON STREET TRASH, NO MATCH FOR EVEN THE MEREST O-GENIN.
IT WAS ALMOST TOO EASY.
PERHAPS, THEN, I HAVE A TASK MORE... CHALLENGING.
A MAN NAMED "PATCH" HAS ARRIVED, POSSIBLY AS AN EMISSARY FOR TYGER TIGER, A MAJOR CRIMELORD ON THE ISLAND OF MADRIPOOR.
WE NEED TO DETERMINE HIS PURPOSE.
AS YOU COMMAND, MATSUO TSURAYABA.
THOUGH I CONFESS, I BEGIN TO WONDER WHY WE BOTHER...
...SINCE THE MANDARIN HAS ABANDONED HIS AFFAIRS AT HOME, TO GO GALLIVANTING ACROSS THE GLOBE, PICKING GRATUITOUS FIGHTS WITH AMERICAN SUPER HEROES.
HAS THE MAN NO NOTION OF HOW ANOTHER PUBLIC DEFEAT WILL DESTROY HIS NEWLY RE-ESTABLISHED CREDIBILITY?
AH WELL, THAT IS NOT OUR CONCERN.
THE HAND IS SWORN TO SERVE HIM--
--AS YOU ARE, TO SERVE THE HAND--
--WITH ALL OUR HEARTS.
WITH ALL MY HEART.


HONG KONG
GAWWWDD!
IF THIS IS WHAT HOME...
...AND THE HOME-FOLKS ARE LIKE...
...NO WONDER THE PARENTALS SKIPPED!
(WOO-WOO-- CHECK OUT THE TALENT!)
(WANNA PARTY, SWEETIE?)
HANDS OFF THE SHADES, SLICK.
Ahhh-SO-- YOU SOME UPPITY TOURISTA "YANKEE-BANANA," GIRL--
--YELLOW ON THE OUTSIDE, WHITE ON THE IN?
JUST TRY AN' "PEEL" ME, SLICK...
...YOU'LL SEE SOME FIREWORKS--!
YAWK!
JUBILEE--HAVE YOU LOST YOUR WITS?!?
YOU DON'T-- EVER-- FLASH A GANG OF TOUGHBOYS ON THEIR OWN TURF!
GIMME A BREAK, RUTHIE, I'VE SEEN HAIRIER MARSHMALLOWS!
I MEAN, GEEZ, YOU WENT AN' LOST OUR BAGS, TOO!
I SUPPOSE THAT MEANS giggle WE'LL HAVE TO SHOP SOME MORE...
AWLLL RIGHT!
IF YOU'RE HUNGRY...
STARVING!
...I KNOW THIS BRILLIANT PLACE FOR LUNCH...
NOTHING THAT WIGGLES, OKAY?
--GIMME A McBURGER'S ANYDAA
YAIEEE!


THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THE WORLD--MUIR ISLE, OFF THE NORTH COAST OF SCOTLAND...
...HOME OF DR. MOIRA MACTAGGERT'S MUTANT RESEARCH CENTER...
COUPLE MORE DAYS, DEFENSIVE SYSTEM'LL BE IN PLACE, DOC.
THEN WE BEGIN OPERATIONAL TESTING.
AN' THIS'LL SECURE THE ISLAND AGAINST ANY FURTHER ATTACKS, FORGE?
SHOULD DO, BANSHEE.
MUST DO, FORGE.

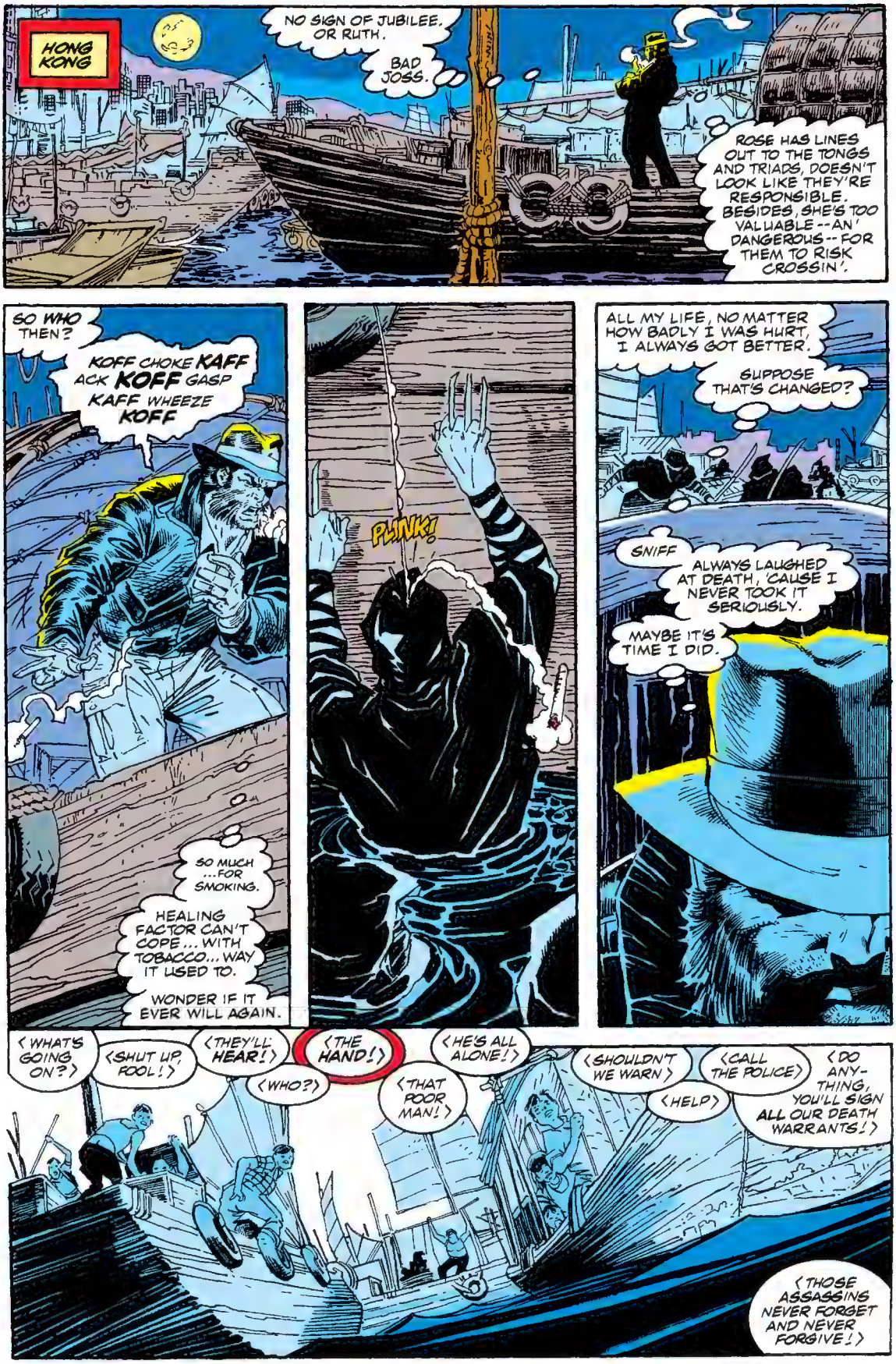

IF THE REAVERS--OR ANY LIKE THEM--COME FOR US AGAIN, WE HAVE TO BE READY.
YOU'RE A LUCKY MAN, CASSIDY.
MOIRA'S ONE FINE-LOOKING LADY.
AYE, THAT SHE IS.


THOUGH NEVER SO WILD--IN DRESS OR MANNER--AS SHE'S BECOME LATELY.
CAN YOU DESIGN A "BACK DOOR" INTO YOUR SYSTEM, FORGE, THAT'LL ADMIT US TWO AND WHICH NONE BUT US'LL KNOW OF?
SURE. BUT WHY?
ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN WHILE WE'RE ON THE ROAD SEARCHIN' FOR THE X-MEN.
I'D FEEL BETTER IS ALL, KNOWIN' WE COULD GET IN HERE NO MATTER WHAT, SHOULD SOMETHIN' GO WRONG.


ASK ME, IRISH, YOU'RE TALKIN' LIKE YOU FIGURE SOMETHING ALREADY HAS.
AND I THINK IT'S MY FAULT.
EVER SINCE I LOST MY MAGNETIC POWERS...
...EVERYWHERE I'VE GONE...

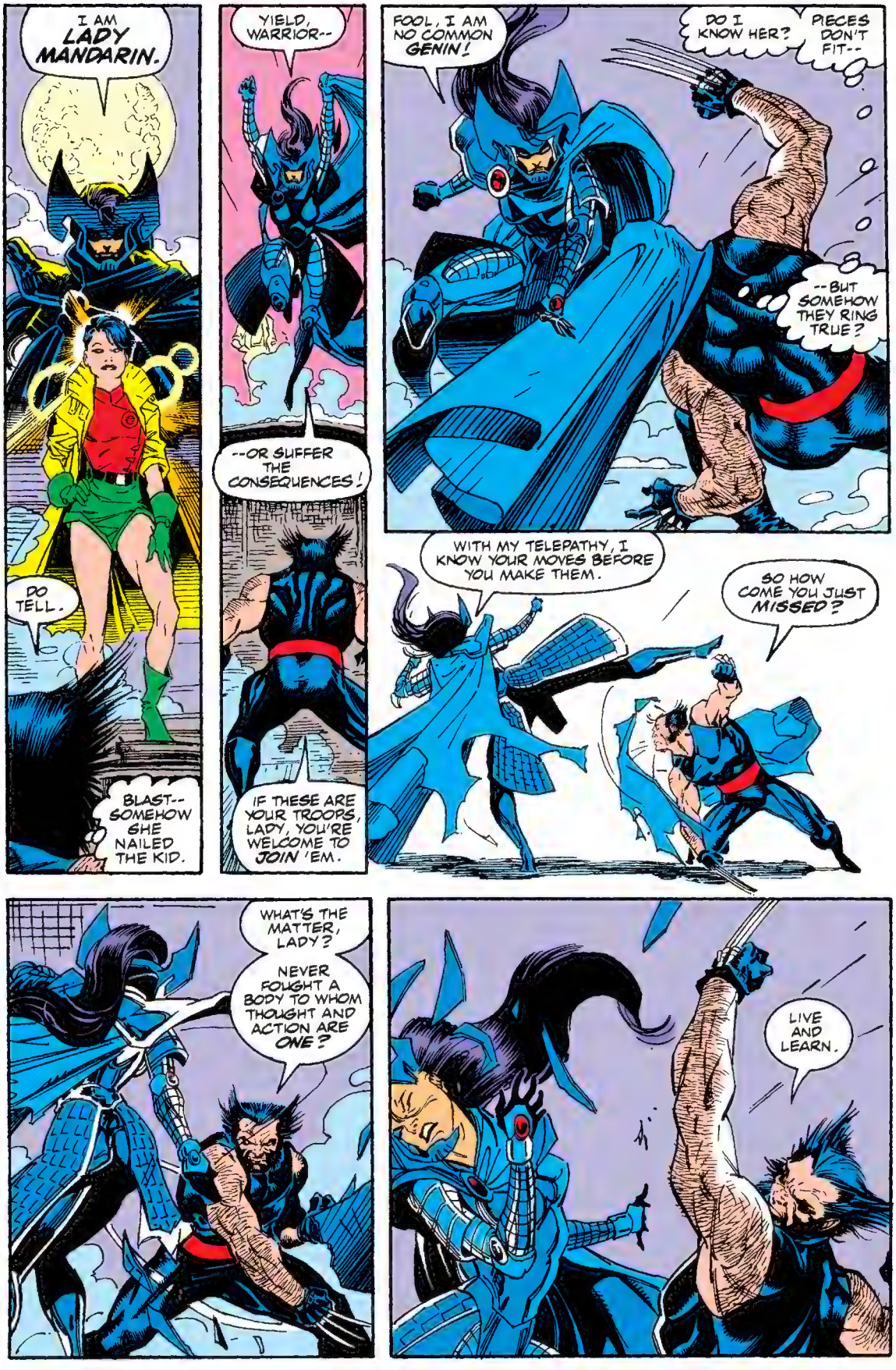
...PEOPLE AROUND ME HAVE STARTED BEHAVING MORE AND MORE NEGATIVE--
--YEEP!
THAT'S RIGHT, SWEETIE!

HOPE YOU DON'T MIND MY SEIZING CONTROL OF YOUR BRAIN, LORNA DANE--
--'CAUSE, Y'SEE, WITH YOUR HELP, THIS ROCK AN' EVERYONE ON IT IS GONNA BECOME LEGION'S...
...PERSONAL, PRIVATE PLAYGROUND!


HONG KONG
NO SIGN OF JUBILEE, OR RUTH.
BAD JOSS.
ROSE HAS LINES OUT TO THE TONGS AND TRIADS, DOESN'T LOOK LIKE THEY'RE RESPONSIBLE. BESIDES, SHE'S TOO VALUABLE--AN' DANGEROUS--FOR THEM TO RISK CROSSIN'.
SO WHO THEN?
KOFF CHOKE KAFF ACK KOFF GASP KAFF WHEEZE KOFF
SO MUCH ...FOR SMOKING.
HEALING FACTOR CAN'T COPE... WITH TOBACCO... WAY IT USED TO.
WONDER IF IT EVER WILL AGAIN.
PLINK!
ALL MY LIFE, NO MATTER HOW BADLY I WAS HURT, I ALWAYS GOT BETTER.
SUPPOSE THAT'S CHANGED?
SNIFF
ALWAYS LAUGHED AT DEATH, 'CAUSE I NEVER TOOK IT SERIOUSLY.
MAYBE IT'S TIME I DID.
<WHAT'S GOING ON?>
<SHUT UP, FOOL!>
<THEY'LL HEAR!>
<WHO?>
<THE HAND!>
<THAT POOR MAN!>
<HE'S ALL ALONE!>
<SHOULDN'T WE WARN>
<HELP>
<CALL THE POLICE>
<DO ANY-THING, YOU'LL SIGN ALL OUR DEATH WARRANTS!>
<THOSE ASSASSINS NEVER FORGET AND NEVER FORGIVE!>

〈GONE!〉*
〈IMPOSSIBLE!〉
〈HE WAS JUST HERE!〉
〈WE'D HAVE SURELY SEEN HIM MOVE, HEARD HIS SLIGHTEST SOUND!〉
* TRANSLATED FROM THE JAPANESE--BOB.
〈HE MUST STILL BE ABOARD, SEARCH THE BOAT, BROTHERS!〉
〈AND REMEMBER, THE ORDERS ARE TO TAKE HIM ALIVE!〉
SNIKT!
LOOKIN' FOR ME, FELLAS?
WELL-- HERE I AM!

BEEN WONDERIN' IF WE'D EVER TANGLE AGAIN, GENIN.
I CAN USE THE EXERCISE.
CAN'T SAY AS I'M SORRY, EITHER.
<THE GAIJIN MADMAN TALKS AS ONE WHO KNOWS US.>
<WHOEVER HE IS, THOUGH, MY SWORD WILL SPEEDILY SEND HIM TO HIS...>
<...ANCESTORS.>
BAD MOVE, BUB.
ADAMANTIUM-LACED BONES. CAN'T BE BROKE.
BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN I MUCH LIKE BEING CUT!
PRELIM'S OVER, SHOWBOAT!
TIME TO INTRO THE MAIN EVENT!
FIREWORKS!
JUBILEE-- USIN' HER MUTANT POWER...
...TO GET EVERYONE'S ATTENTION!
THIS IS WRONG-- KID DOESN'T SOUND QUITE HERSELF.


I AM LADY MANDARIN.
DO TELL.
BLAST-- SOMEHOW SHE NAILED THE KID.
YIELD, WARRIOR--
--OR SUFFER THE CONSEQUENCES!
IF THESE ARE YOUR TROOPS, LADY, YOU'RE WELCOME TO JOIN 'EM.
FOOL, I AM NO COMMON GENIN!
DO I KNOW HER?
PIECES DON'T FIT--
--BUT SOMEHOW THEY RING TRUE?
WITH MY TELEPATHY, I KNOW YOUR MOVES BEFORE YOU MAKE THEM.
SO HOW COME YOU JUST MISSED?
WHAT'S THE MATTER, LADY?
NEVER FOUGHT A BODY TO WHOM THOUGHT AND ACTION ARE ONE?
LIVE AND LEARN.

WHAT--?!
THE FACE--
TRUE, DOG!
AND LET MY NAME BE YOUR LAST THOUGHT...
...AS MY PSYCHIC KNIFE CASTS YOU HEADLONG INTO THE ABYSS OF OBLIVION!
PSYLOCKE?!?
THE CHILD HID YOUR SECRET WELL FROM MY PSI-PROBES--
--HER THOUGHTS ARE AS SLIPPERY AND HARD-TO-HOLD AS SHE HERSELF--
--BUT YOUR FACE, YOUR CLAWS--
--THE MOMENTARY RAPPORT FORGED BETWEEN US BY MY MENTAL BLADE...
...HAVE BETRAYED YOUR SECRET.
NOW--AT LONG LAST--SHALL THE HAND BE REVENGED ON ONE OF ITS GREATEST FOES:
WOLVERINE!
NEXT: BROKEN CHAINS!

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X-MEN
ACTS of VENGEANCE!
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broken chains

A *STAN LEE* PRESENTATION, STARRING THE UNCANNY *X-MEN*

MY BODY IS AT REST.

IN HARMONY WITH NATURE, WITHIN AND WITHOUT.

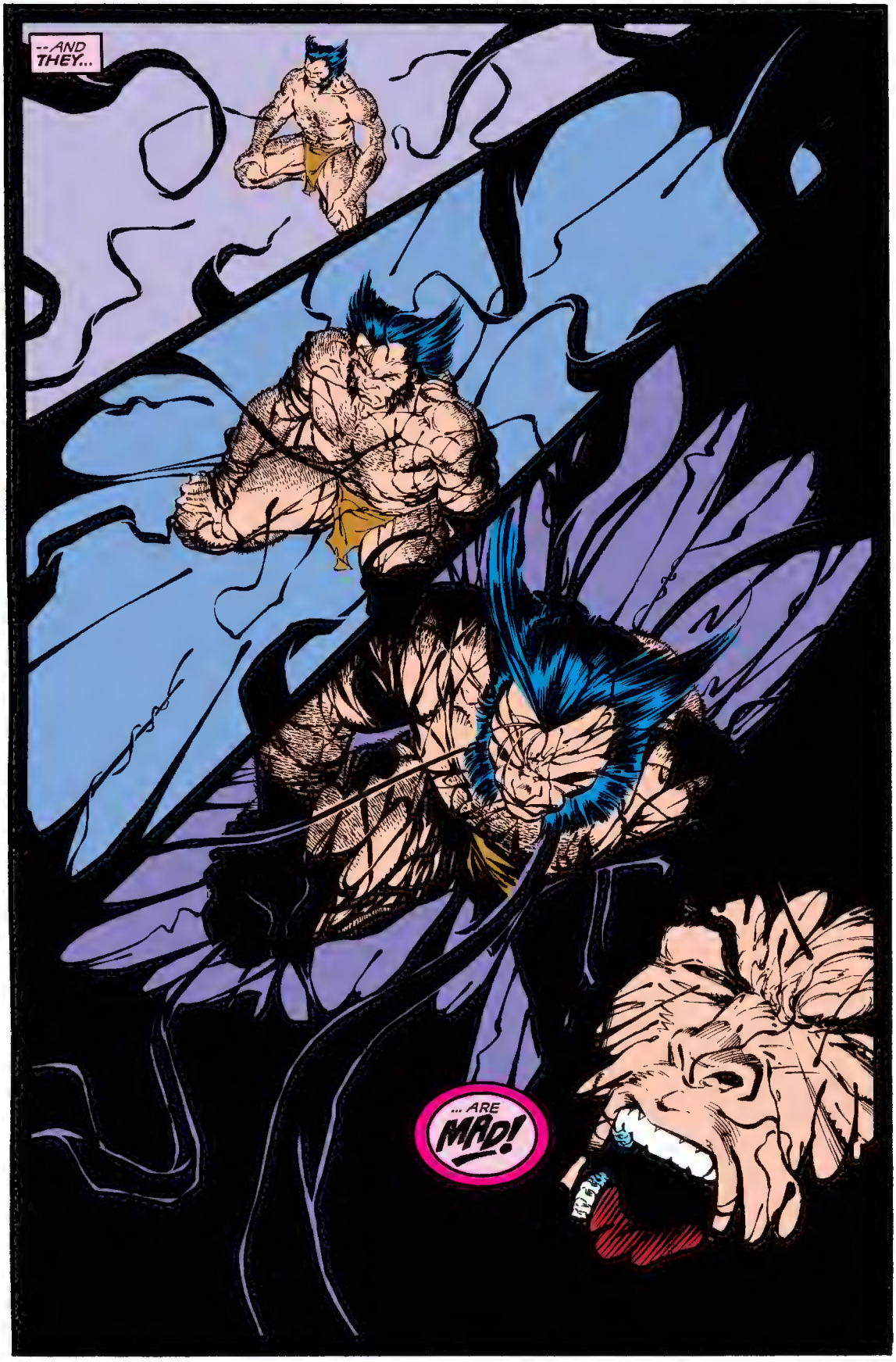
MY SPIRIT, AT PEACE.

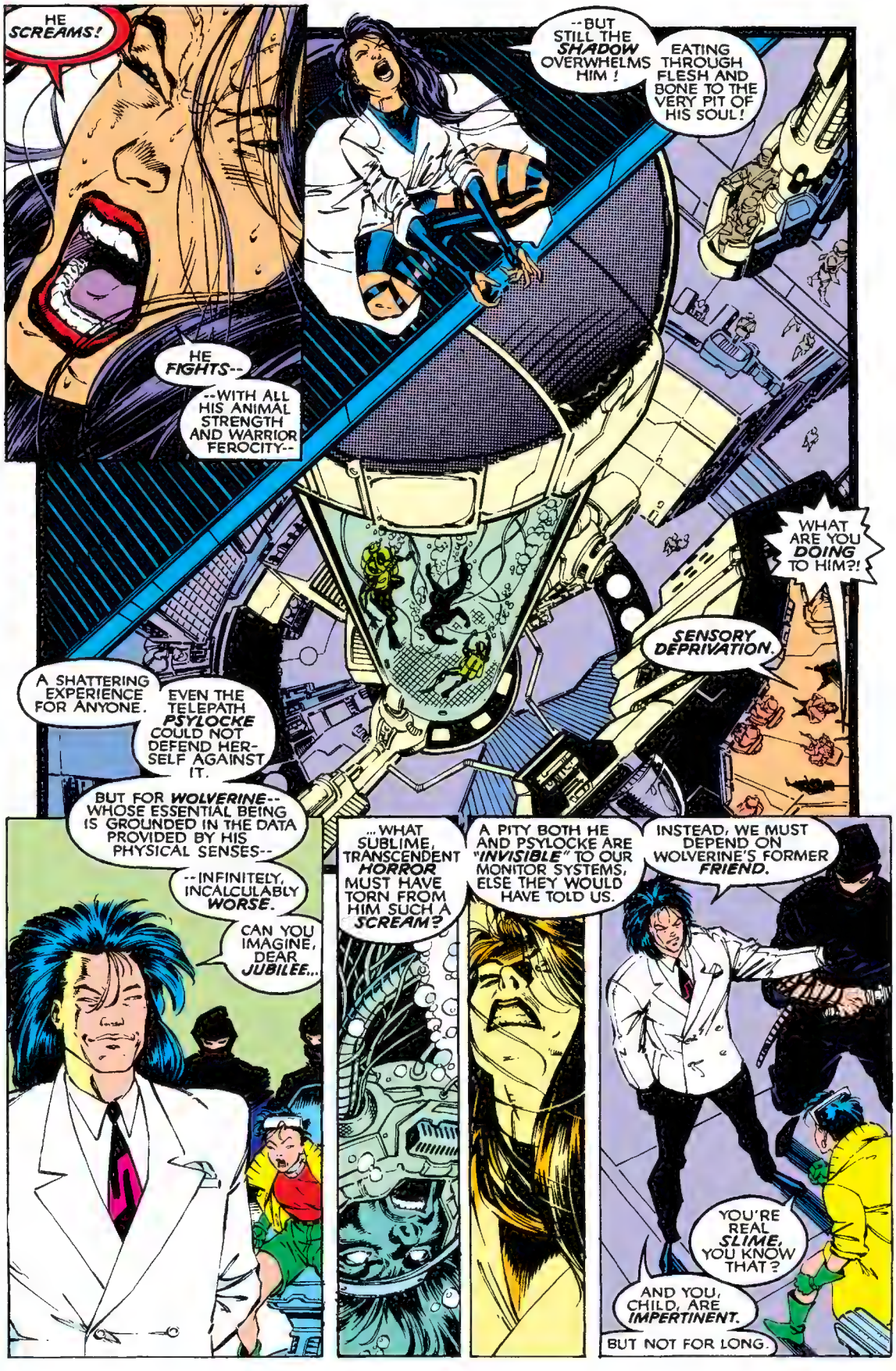
NEITHER SIGHT NOR SOUND NOR TASTE NOR TOUCH NOR SMELL-- NOT EVEN THE SMALLEST SENSATION--

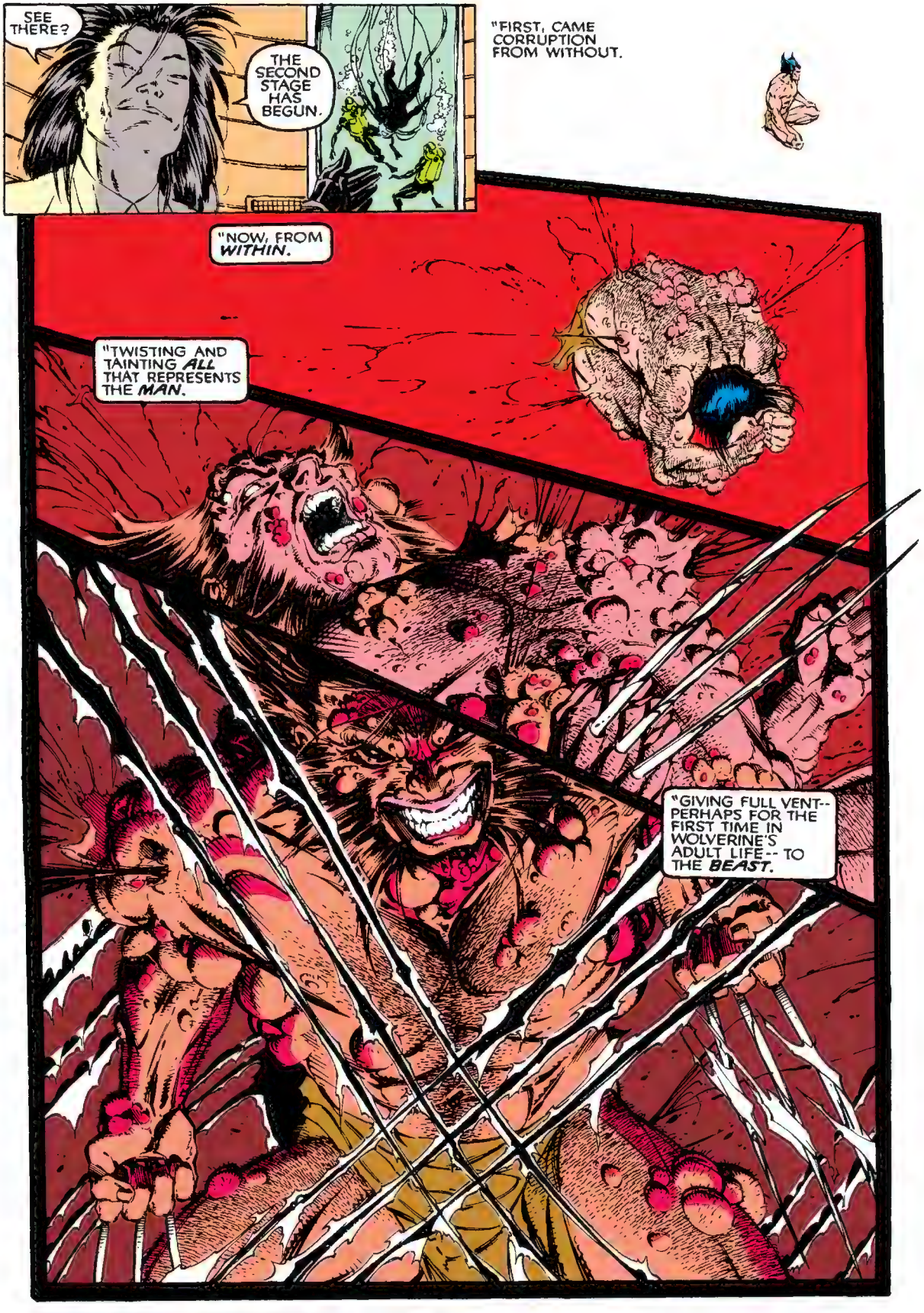
--TO DISTURB THIS ALL-EMBRACING STILLNESS.

*ALL I'M LEFT WITH ARE MY **THOUGHTS**--*

CHRIS CLAREMONT WRITER	*JIM LEE* PENCILER	*SCOTT WILLIAMS* INKER	*TOM ORZECHOWSKI* LETTERER	*GLYNIS OLIVER* COLORIST	*BOB HARRAS* EDITOR	*TOM DeFALCO* EDITOR IN CHIEF

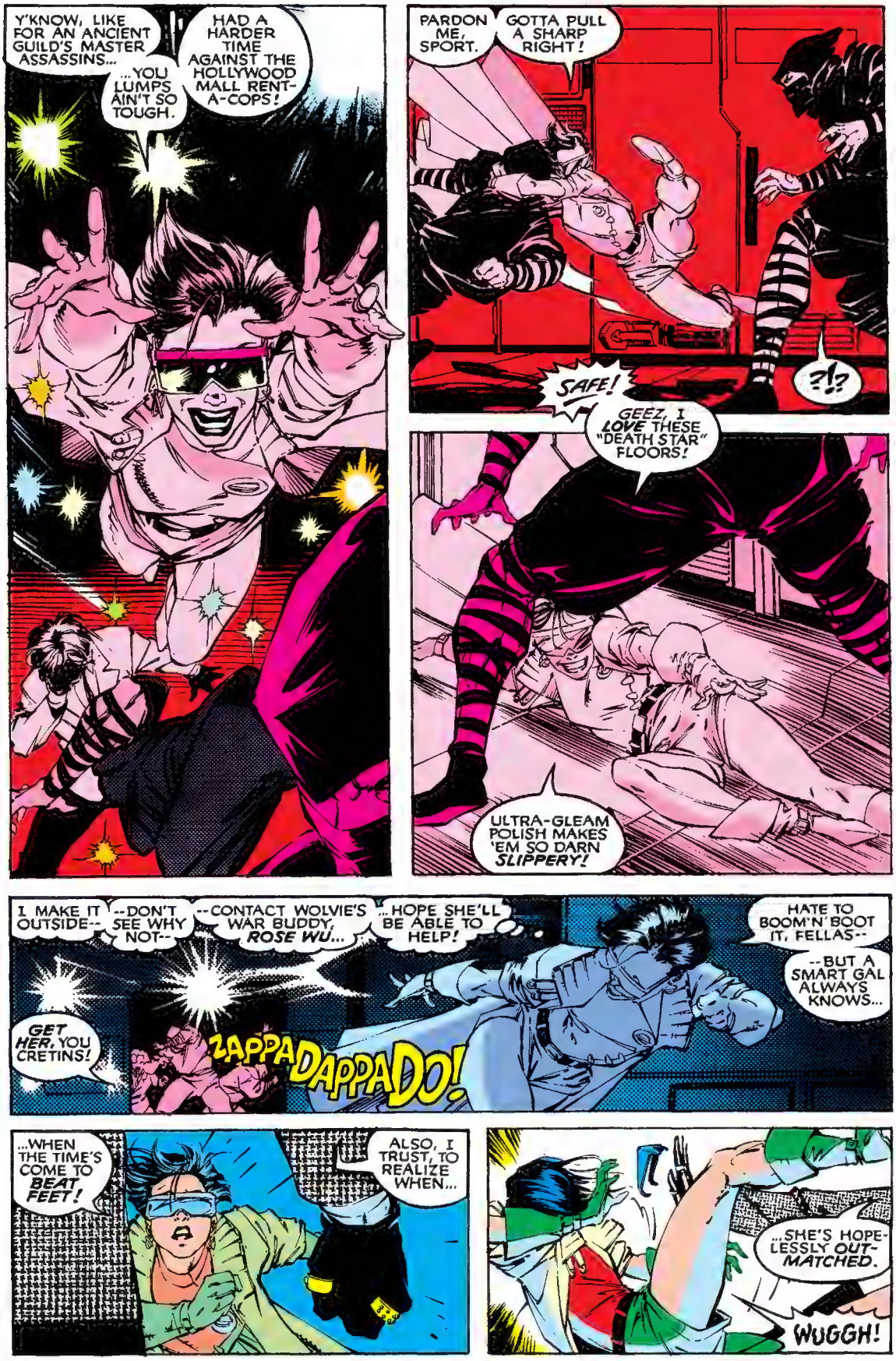

--AND THEY...
... ARE MAD!

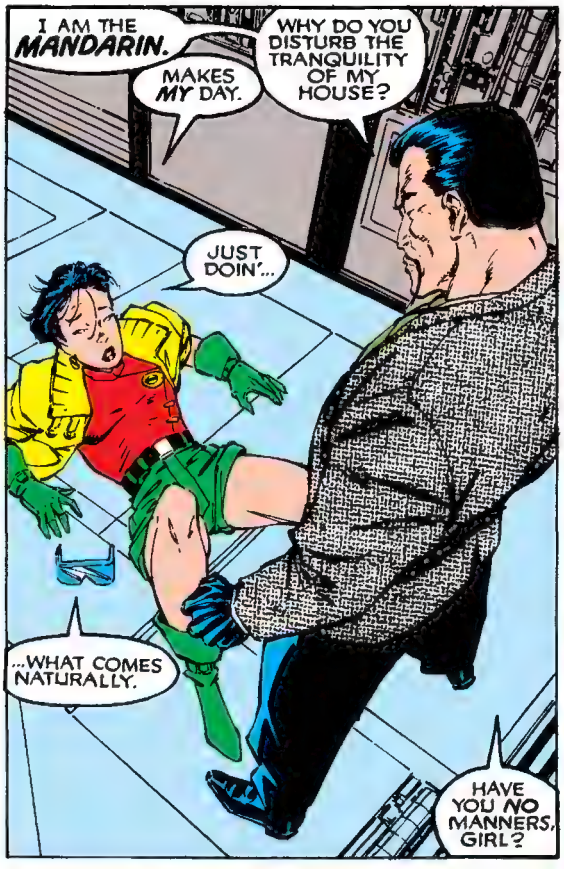

HE SCREAMS!
--BUT STILL THE SHADOW OVERWHELMS HIM!
EATING THROUGH FLESH AND BONE TO THE VERY PIT OF HIS SOUL!
HE FIGHTS--
--WITH ALL HIS ANIMAL STRENGTH AND WARRIOR FEROCITY--
WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO HIM?!
SENSORY DEPRIVATION.
A SHATTERING EXPERIENCE FOR ANYONE.
EVEN THE TELEPATH PSYLOCKE COULD NOT DEFEND HERSELF AGAINST IT.
BUT FOR WOLVERINE--WHOSE ESSENTIAL BEING IS GROUNDED IN THE DATA PROVIDED BY HIS PHYSICAL SENSES--
--INFINITELY, INCALCULABLY WORSE.
CAN YOU IMAGINE, DEAR JUBILEE...
...WHAT SUBLIME, TRANSCENDENT HORROR MUST HAVE TORN FROM HIM SUCH A SCREAM?
A PITY BOTH HE AND PSYLOCKE ARE "INVISIBLE" TO OUR MONITOR SYSTEMS, ELSE THEY WOULD HAVE TOLD US.
INSTEAD, WE MUST DEPEND ON WOLVERINE'S FORMER FRIEND.
YOU'RE REAL SLIME, YOU KNOW THAT?
AND YOU, CHILD, ARE IMPERTINENT.
BUT NOT FOR LONG.

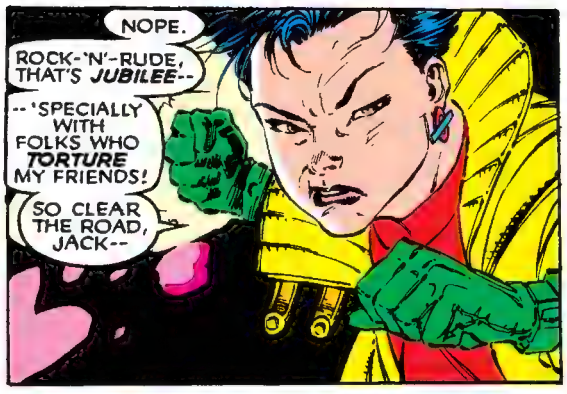

SEE THERE?
THE SECOND STAGE HAS BEGUN.
"FIRST, CAME CORRUPTION FROM WITHOUT.
"NOW, FROM *WITHIN*.
"TWISTING AND TAINTING *ALL* THAT REPRESENTS THE *MAN*.
"GIVING FULL VENT--PERHAPS FOR THE FIRST TIME IN WOLVERINE'S ADULT LIFE -- TO THE *BEAST*.

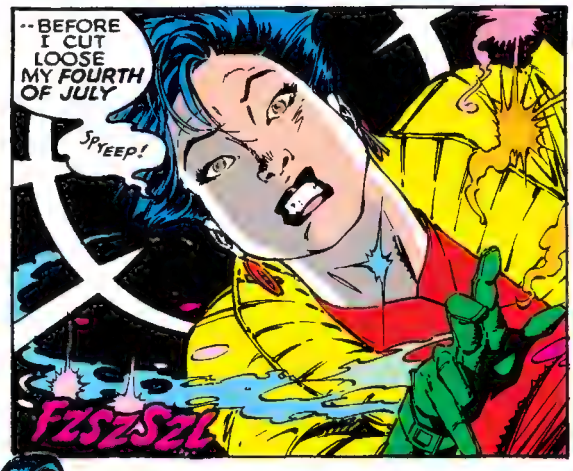
"PRIMAL CLAY...
"...THAT I, THROUGH PSYLOCKE'S TELEPATHY, WILL SHAPE AND MOLD...
"... INTO THE IMAGE OF THE HAND!"
STOP IT STOP IT STOP IT!
WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS, WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM US?!
CONSIDER IT--AN ACT OF VENGEANCE.
WOLVERINE SINGLE-HANDEDLY DECIMATED ONE OF THE GREAT HOUSES OF OUR ORDER. THAT IS A DEBT WHICH CANNOT BE LEFT UNPAID.
AND HOW BETTER THAN TO TAKE OUR DEADLIEST FOE...
...AND TURN THE HERO TO OUR USES...
...AS OUR MOST FEARSOME ASSASSIN.
YOU'RE CRAZY!
I AM AN ARTIST, LITTLE GIRL.
BUT NO LESS BRILLIANT--OR DEADLY--BECAUSE OF IT.
QUITE THE CONTRARY.
GAGKGHX!
YOUR PARDON, LORD--
--BUT PSYLOCKE IS TOO POWERFUL A PSI!
THE RESONANCES SHE'S RECEIVING FROM WOLVERINE--AND BROADCASTING TO US--
--ARE BEYOND THE CAPACITY OF EVEN OUR STRONGEST PSYCHIC DAMPERS!

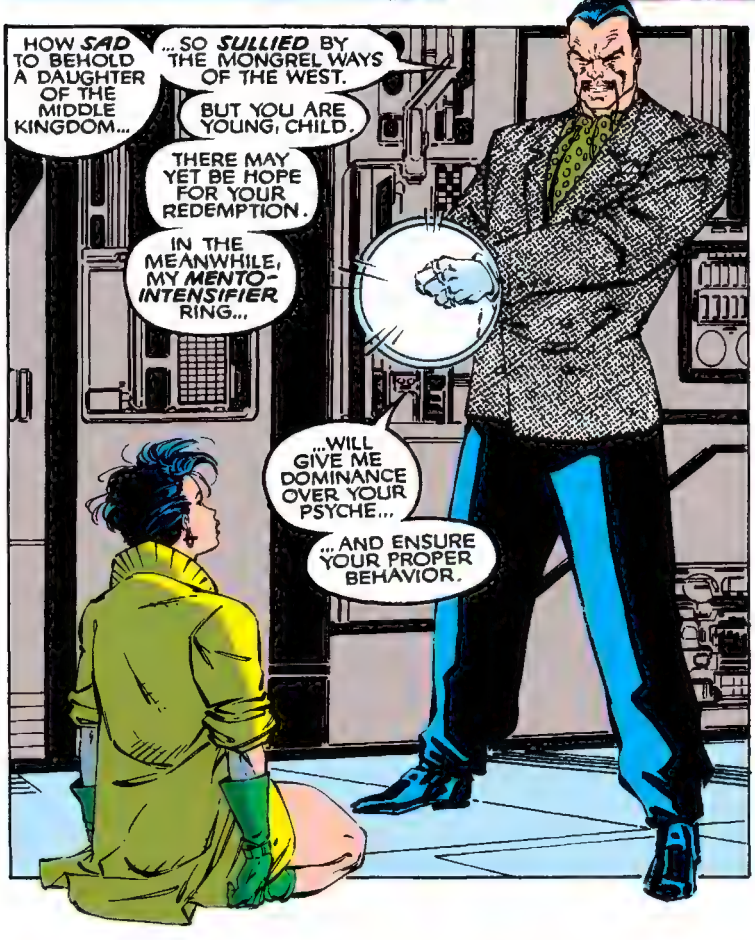
SOME OF OUR MORE SUSCEPTIBLE PERSONNEL...
...ARE BOUND TO BE AFFECTED--!
?!?
NOW AIN'T-- KOFF-- THAT A CRYIN'-- KAFF-- SHAME!
KILL KILL KILL KILL KILL
FAR BE IT FROM ME, Y'KNOW...
...TO SPOIL THE FUN--
--OR LET SUCH A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY...
...GO TO WASTE!
ZZPAM!
WHASSAMATTA, DUDES...
...LIKE YOU KICKY KINKO KILLERS NEVER SEEN...
...A REAL LIVE GOOD OLD-FASHIONED, ALL-AMERICAN MUTANT FIREWORKS DISPLAY?
MY LUCKY DAY!
THE EXPLOSIONS ARE SHORTING OUT THE CONSOLES!


Y'KNOW, LIKE FOR AN ANCIENT GUILD'S MASTER ASSASSINS...
...YOU LUMPS AIN'T SO TOUGH.
HAD A HARDER TIME AGAINST THE HOLLYWOOD MALL RENT-A-COPS!
PARDON ME, SPORT.
GOTTA PULL A SHARP RIGHT!
SAFE!
?!?
GEEZ, I LOVE THESE "DEATH STAR" FLOORS!
ULTRA-GLEAM POLISH MAKES 'EM SO DARN SLIPPERY!
I MAKE IT OUTSIDE--
--DON'T SEE WHY NOT--
--CONTACT WOLVIE'S WAR BUDDY, ROSE WU...
...HOPE SHE'LL BE ABLE TO HELP!
HATE TO BOOM'N'BOOT IT, FELLAS--
--BUT A SMART GAL ALWAYS KNOWS...
GET HER, YOU CRETINS!
ZAPPADAPPADO!
...WHEN THE TIME'S COME TO BEAT FEET!
ALSO, I TRUST, TO REALIZE WHEN...
...SHE'S HOPELESSLY OUTMATCHED.
WUGGH!


I AM THE MANDARIN.
WHY DO YOU DISTURB THE TRANQUILITY OF MY HOUSE?
MAKES MY DAY.
JUST DOIN'...
...WHAT COMES NATURALLY.
HAVE YOU NO MANNERS, GIRL?


NOPE.
ROCK-'N'-RUDE, THAT'S JUBILEE--
--'SPECIALLY WITH FOLKS WHO TORTURE MY FRIENDS!
SO CLEAR THE ROAD, JACK--

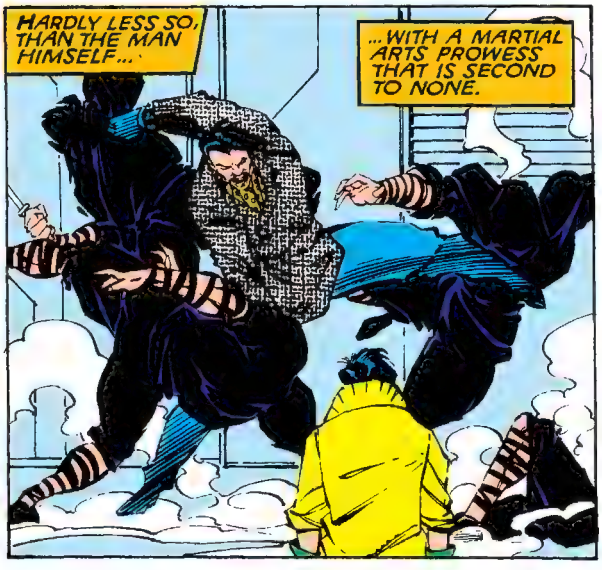

--BEFORE I CUT LOOSE MY FOURTH OF JULY
SPEEP!
FZSZSZL


HOW SAD TO BEHOLD A DAUGHTER OF THE MIDDLE KINGDOM...
...SO SULLIED BY THE MONGREL WAYS OF THE WEST.
BUT YOU ARE YOUNG, CHILD.
THERE MAY YET BE HOPE FOR YOUR REDEMPTION.
IN THE MEANWHILE, MY MENTO-INTENSIFIER RING...
...WILL GIVE ME DOMINANCE OVER YOUR PSYCHE...
...AND ENSURE YOUR PROPER BEHAVIOR.

A PITY THE SAME CANNOT BE SAID...
...FOR MY ERSTWHILE SERVITORS.
BY OUR JONIN'S COMMAND...
...THE GIRL IS OURS!

NINJA DOGS--
--YOU DARE PRESUME TO COMMAND, MUCH LESS THREATEN...
...THE LORD OF THE SACRED RINGS?!
IN HIS OWN HOUSE?!!
TEN BANDS IN ALL, ONE FOR EACH FINGER.
EACH WITH A DIFFERENT POWER.

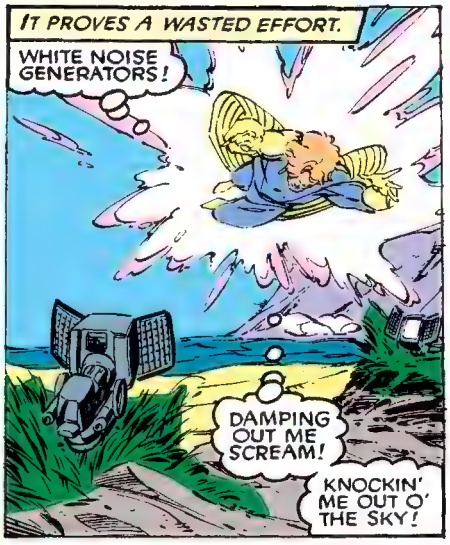
CAPABLE, IN THE MANDARIN'S HANDS...
...OF WREAKING UNIMAGINABLE HAVOC.

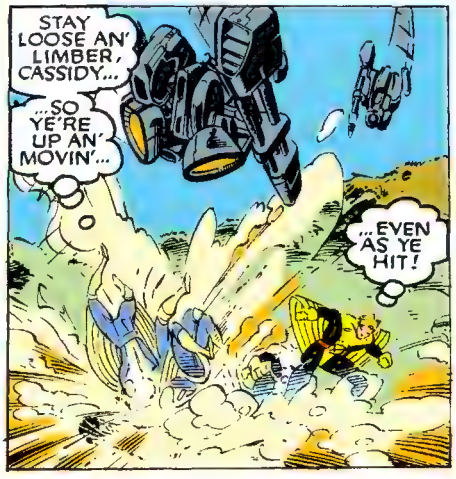

HARDLY LESS SO, THAN THE MAN HIMSELF...
...WITH A MARTIAL ARTS PROWESS THAT IS SECOND TO NONE.

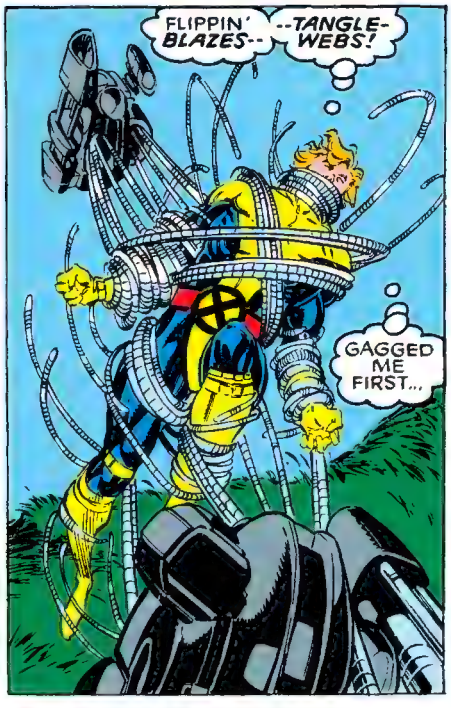
MATSUO TSURAYABA!
IS THIS, MASTER OF ASSASSINS, HOW THE HAND HONORS ITS PLEDGE OF FEALTY AND SERVICE?
A THOUSAND PARDONS, NOBLE LORD!
THESE OVER-ZEALOUS FOOLS EXCEEDED MY ORDERS TO RECAPTURE THE GIRL. THEY HAVE PAID THE PRICE.

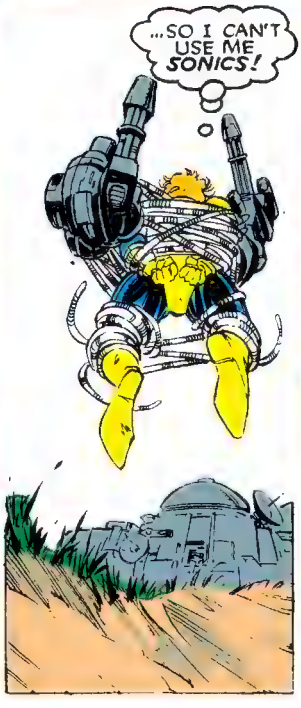
I DO NOT GLADLY SUFFER ASSAULTS UPON MY PERSON.
IT WAS AN ERROR. IT WILL NOT HAPPEN AGAIN.
NOR TOLERATE THE FOOL RESPONSIBLE FOR THEM.
DREAD LORD AND MASTER...
...I MOST HUMBLY STAND REBUKED

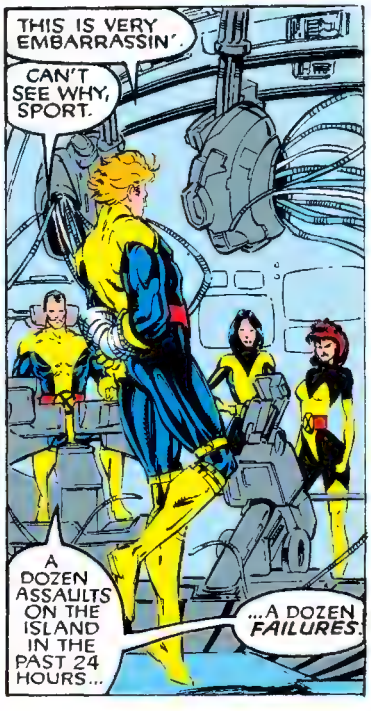
MUIR ISLE
BANSHEE COMES IN AS FAST AS HE'S ABLE...
...SONIC SCREAM PITCHED SO HIGH IT CAN'T BE HEARD...
...AS HE SKIMS SEA AND SHORE AT BARELY THE HEIGHT OF A TALL MAN.


IT PROVES A WASTED EFFORT.
WHITE NOISE GENERATORS!
DAMPING OUT ME SCREAM!
KNOCKIN' ME OUT O' THE SKY!

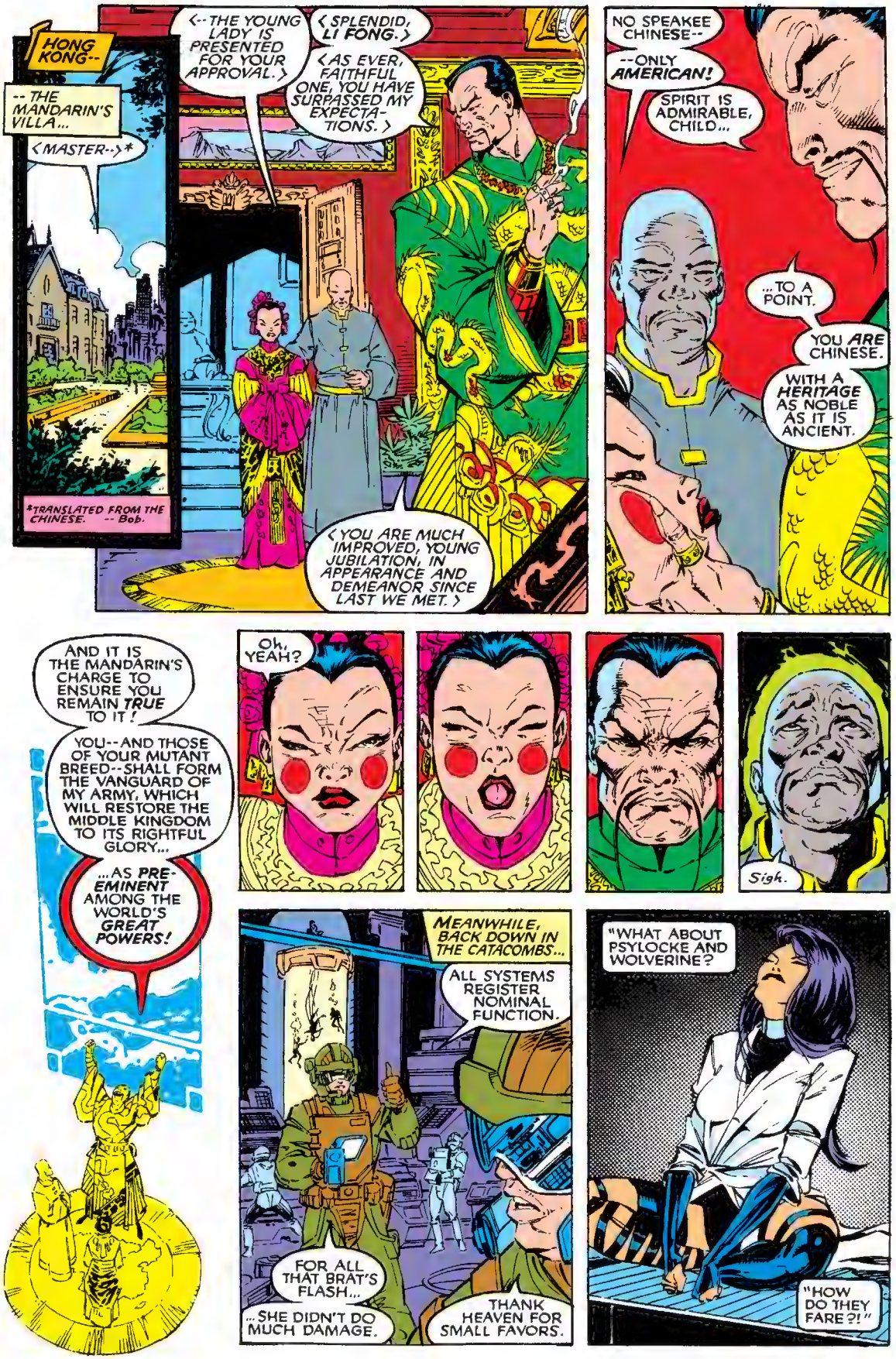

STAY LOOSE AN' LIMBER, CASSIDY...
...SO YE'RE UP AN' MOVIN'...
...EVEN AS YE HIT!

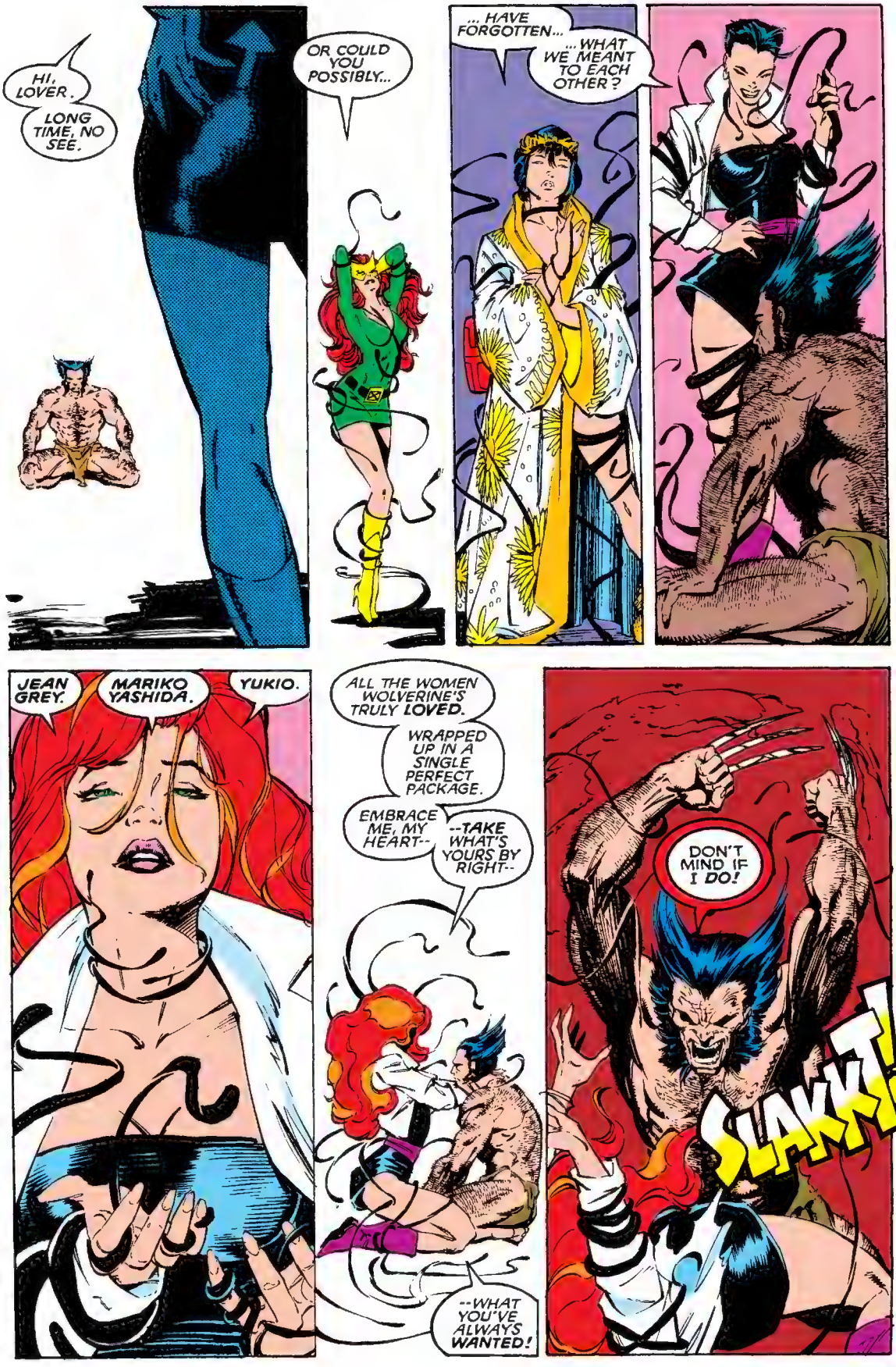

FLIPPIN' BLAZES--
--TANGLE-WEBS!
GAGGED ME FIRST...

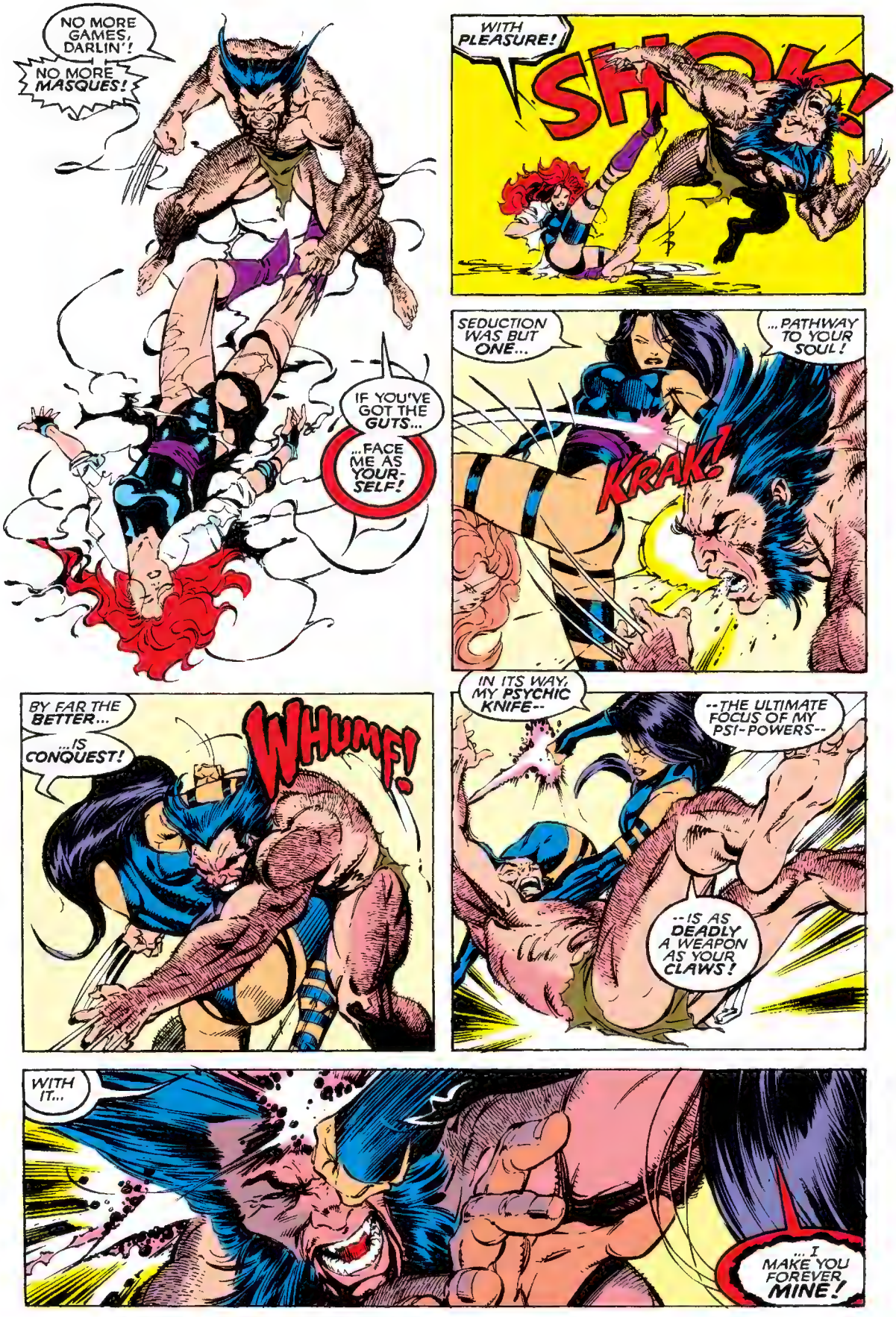

...SO I CAN'T USE ME SONICS!

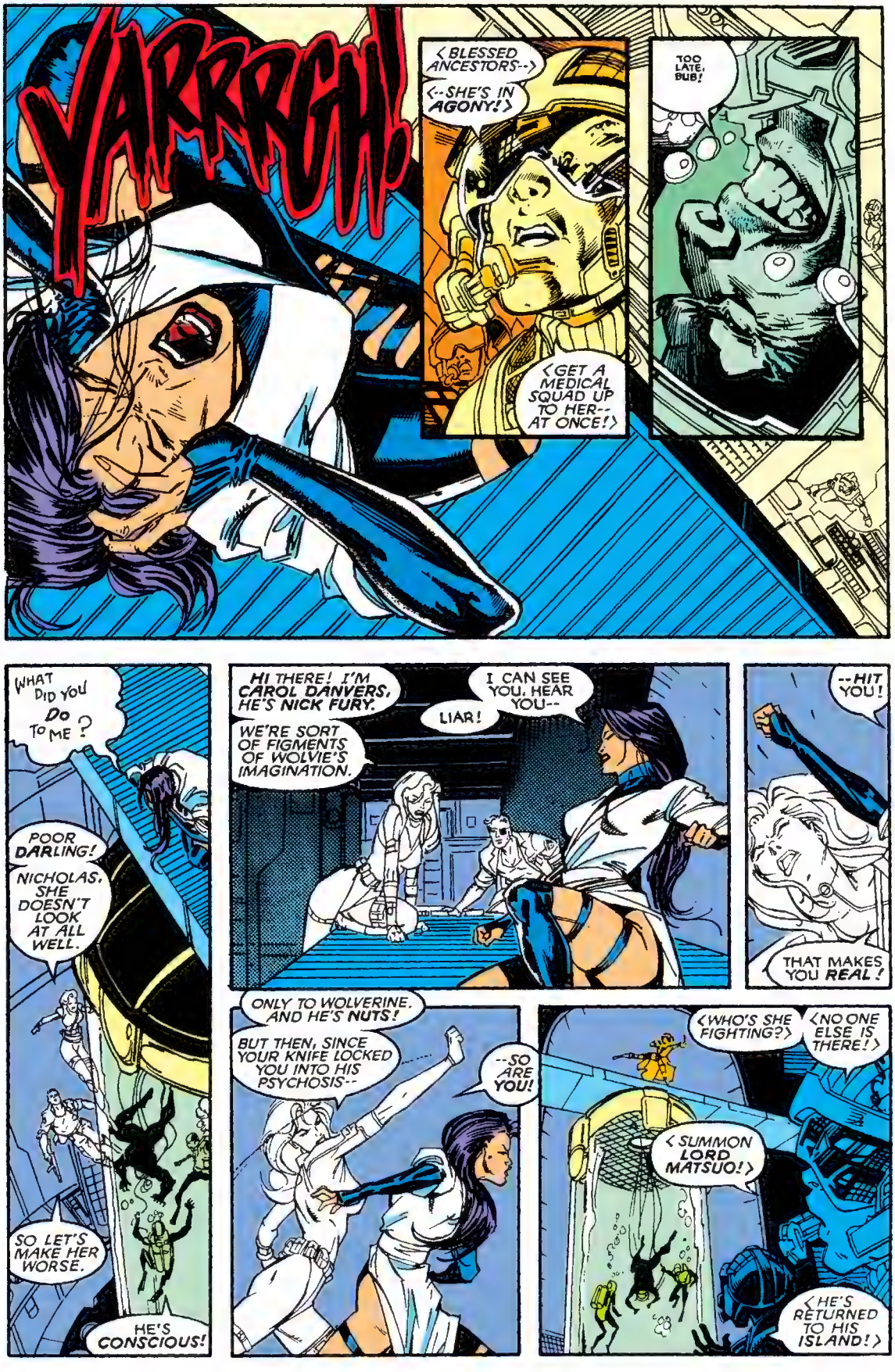

THIS IS VERY EMBARRASSIN'.
CAN'T SEE WHY, SPORT.
A DOZEN ASSAULTS ON THE ISLAND IN THE PAST 24 HOURS...
...A DOZEN FAILURES.

DR. MacTAGGERT-- YOUR ISLAND'S ABOUT AS SECURE AS MY STATE-OF-THE-ART TECHNOLOGY WILL ALLOW.
YOU'VE DONE YOUR WORK WELL, FORGE. I'M GRATEFUL.
SOMETHING WRONG, SEAN?
YOU DON'T LOOK AT ALL COMFORTABLE.
CAN'T WIN 'EM ALL, PAL.
'S'NOT THAT.
IT'S THESE NEW UNIFORMS.
AREN'T THEY WONDERFUL, I JUST LOVE 'EM!
CALL ME AN OLD FOGEY, SHARON...
...BUT THEY DON'T FEEL QUITE... DIGNIFIED.
GOTTA MOVE WITH THE TIMES, SEAN, CUTTING EDGE THREADS FOR THE CUTTING EDGE TEAM.
I DUNNO, FORGE. SOMETHING FEELS...
...WRONG.
MUTANT X EXTREMELY DANGEROUS ACCESS FORBIDDEN
EVERYONE SEEMS AFFECTED-- MOIRA MOST OF ALL-- SAVE ME AN' LORNA DANE.
AN' LORNA'S NOWHERE T' BE FOUND.
MUTANT X EXTREMELY DANGEROUS ACCESS FORBIDDEN
THOOM!
LET ME OUT!
NO CAN DO, SWEETS.
LEGION!
WHY AM I A PRISONER?!
SIMPLE.
THANKS TO YOU, I-- THAT IS, ME, THE BAD BOY JACK WAYNE IDENTITY OF LEGION'S MULTIPLE PERSONALITIES.
--GOT CONTROL OF ALL THE KID'S SELVES AND POWERS.
AN' THROUGH THEM, INFLUENCE OVER EVERY MIND ON THIS ROCK.
GONNA HAVE ME SOME FUN, HON...
...AN' THERE AIN'T A BLESSED THING YOU CAN DO TO STOP ME.
WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT, PUNK!
THOOM!
FACE FACTS, BABE. FIGHT'S OVER. YOU LOST! END OF STORY.


HONG KONG--
--THE MANDARIN'S VILLA...
〈MASTER--〉*
*TRANSLATED FROM THE CHINESE. -- Bob.
〈--THE YOUNG LADY IS PRESENTED FOR YOUR APPROVAL.〉
〈SPLENDID, LI FONG.〉
〈AS EVER, FAITHFUL ONE, YOU HAVE SURPASSED MY EXPECTATIONS.〉
〈YOU ARE MUCH IMPROVED, YOUNG JUBILATION, IN APPEARANCE AND DEMEANOR SINCE LAST WE MET.〉
NO SPEAKEE CHINESE--
--ONLY AMERICAN!
SPIRIT IS ADMIRABLE, CHILD...
...TO A POINT.
YOU ARE CHINESE.
WITH A HERITAGE AS NOBLE AS IT IS ANCIENT.
AND IT IS THE MANDARIN'S CHARGE TO ENSURE YOU REMAIN TRUE TO IT!
YOU--AND THOSE OF YOUR MUTANT BREED--SHALL FORM THE VANGUARD OF MY ARMY, WHICH WILL RESTORE THE MIDDLE KINGDOM TO ITS RIGHTFUL GLORY...
...AS PRE-EMINENT AMONG THE WORLD'S GREAT POWERS!
Oh, YEAH?
Sigh.
MEANWHILE, BACK DOWN IN THE CATACOMBS...
ALL SYSTEMS REGISTER NOMINAL FUNCTION.
FOR ALL THAT BRAT'S FLASH...
...SHE DIDN'T DO MUCH DAMAGE.
THANK HEAVEN FOR SMALL FAVORS.
"WHAT ABOUT PSYLOCKE AND WOLVERINE?
"HOW DO THEY FARE?!"

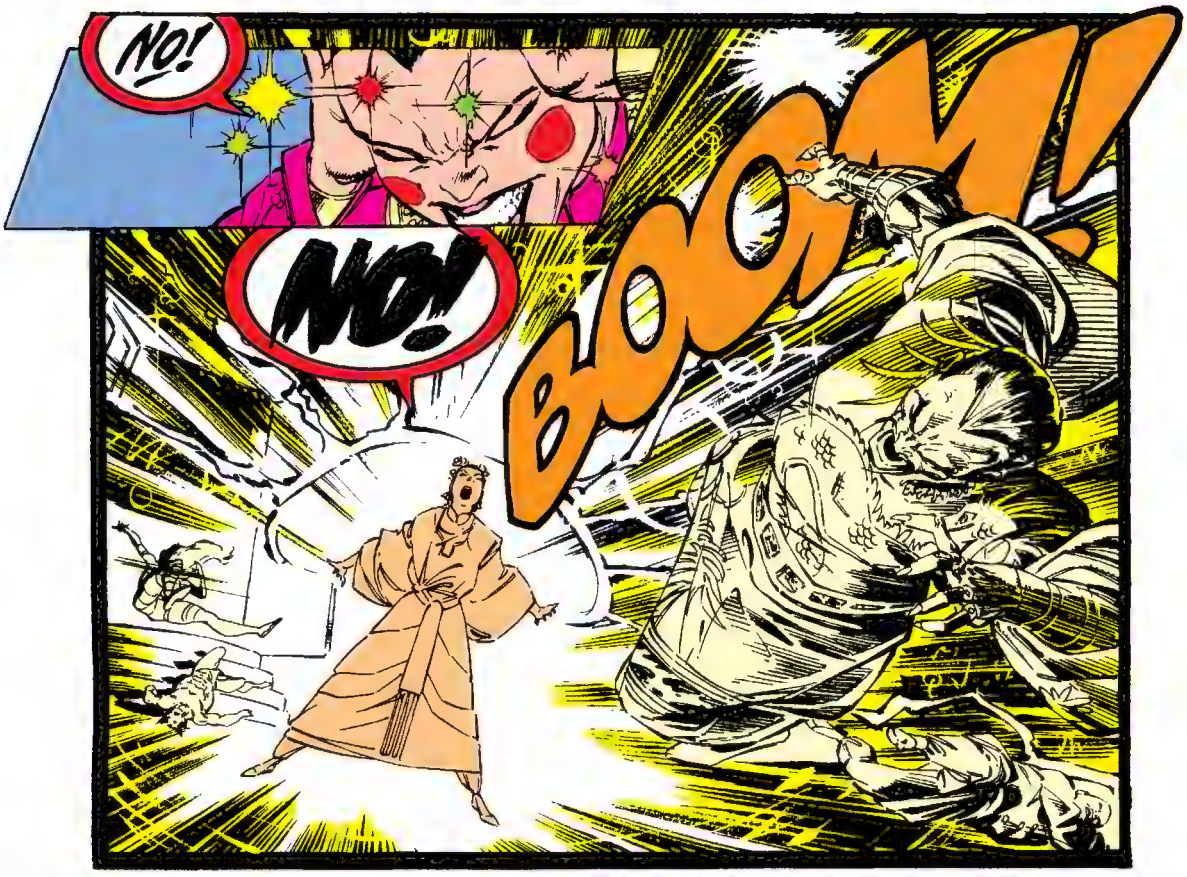

HI, LOVER.
LONG TIME, NO SEE.
OR COULD YOU POSSIBLY...
... HAVE FORGOTTEN...
... WHAT WE MEANT TO EACH OTHER?
JEAN GREY.
MARIKO YASHIDA.
YUKIO.
ALL THE WOMEN WOLVERINE'S TRULY LOVED.
WRAPPED UP IN A SINGLE PERFECT PACKAGE.
EMBRACE ME, MY HEART--
--TAKE WHAT'S YOURS BY RIGHT--
--WHAT YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED!
DON'T MIND IF I DO!
SLAKK!


NO MORE GAMES, DARLIN'!
NO MORE MASQUES!
IF YOU'VE GOT THE GUTS...
...FACE ME AS YOUR-SELF!
WITH PLEASURE!
SHOK!
SEDUCTION WAS BUT ONE...
...PATHWAY TO YOUR SOUL!
KRAK!
BY FAR THE BETTER...
...IS CONQUEST!
WHUMF!
IN ITS WAY, MY PSYCHIC KNIFE--
--THE ULTIMATE FOCUS OF MY PSI-POWERS--
--IS AS DEADLY A WEAPON AS YOUR CLAWS!
WITH IT...
...I MAKE YOU FOREVER MINE!

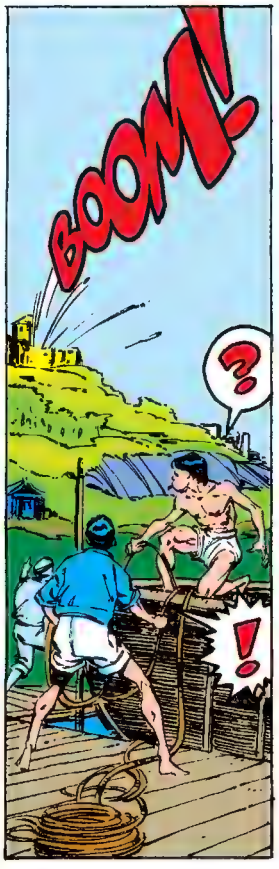

YARRRGH!
<BLESSED ANCESTORS--
<--SHE'S IN AGONY!>
<GET A MEDICAL SQUAD UP TO HER-- AT ONCE!>
TOO LATE, BUB!
WHAT DID YOU DO TO ME?
POOR DARLING!
NICHOLAS, SHE DOESN'T LOOK AT ALL WELL.
SO LET'S MAKE HER WORSE.
HE'S CONSCIOUS!
HI THERE! I'M CAROL DANVERS, HE'S NICK FURY.
WE'RE SORT OF FIGMENTS OF WOLVIE'S IMAGINATION.
I CAN SEE YOU, HEAR YOU--
LIAR!
--HIT YOU!
THAT MAKES YOU REAL!
ONLY TO WOLVERINE. AND HE'S NUTS!
BUT THEN, SINCE YOUR KNIFE LOCKED YOU INTO HIS PSYCHOSIS--
--SO ARE YOU!
<WHO'S SHE FIGHTING?>
<NO ONE ELSE IS THERE!>
<SUMMON LORD MATSUO!>
<HE'S RETURNED TO HIS ISLAND!>

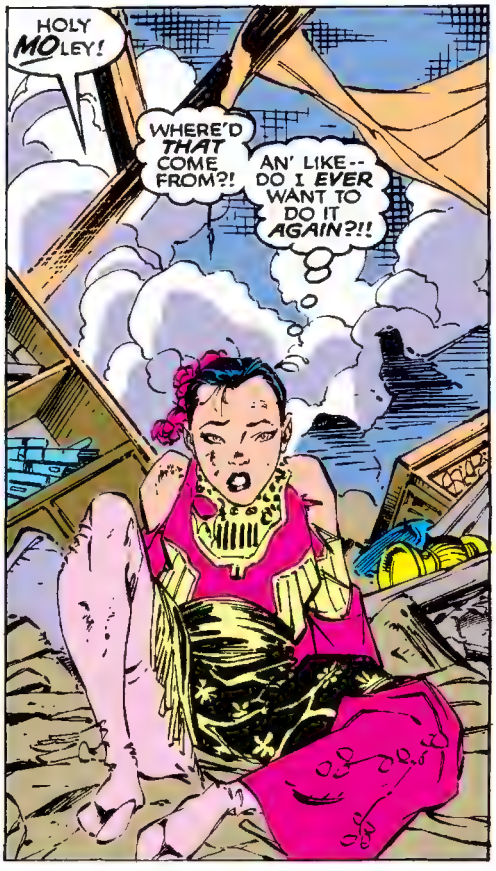
〈"GET HIM BACK! WE NEED--!"〉
HAGKH GRRGLE
SENSE DEPRIVATION TANK--
--USIN' IT AN' BETSY'S TELEPATHY...
SKRIKKT!
...TO TRY TO BRAIN-WASH ME!
〈SOBA'S DOWN! HE'S SLASHING AT THE TANK!〉
THAT ISN'T VERY HOSPITABLE.
FLWHOOM!
ZAKK!
DOWNRIGHT NASTY, AS A MATTER OF FACT.
〈SOUND THE ALARM!〉
〈GENIN TO YOUR POSTS!〉
〈THE PRISONER IS ESCAPING!〉
ANY OBJECTIONS, SHORTY...
...TO MY SHORTENING THE ODDS?
FREE COUNTRY.
BE MY GUEST.
〈MADNESS!〉
〈THERE'S NO GUN-FIRE!〉
〈BUT THE GENIN FALL, AS THOUGH SHOT!〉

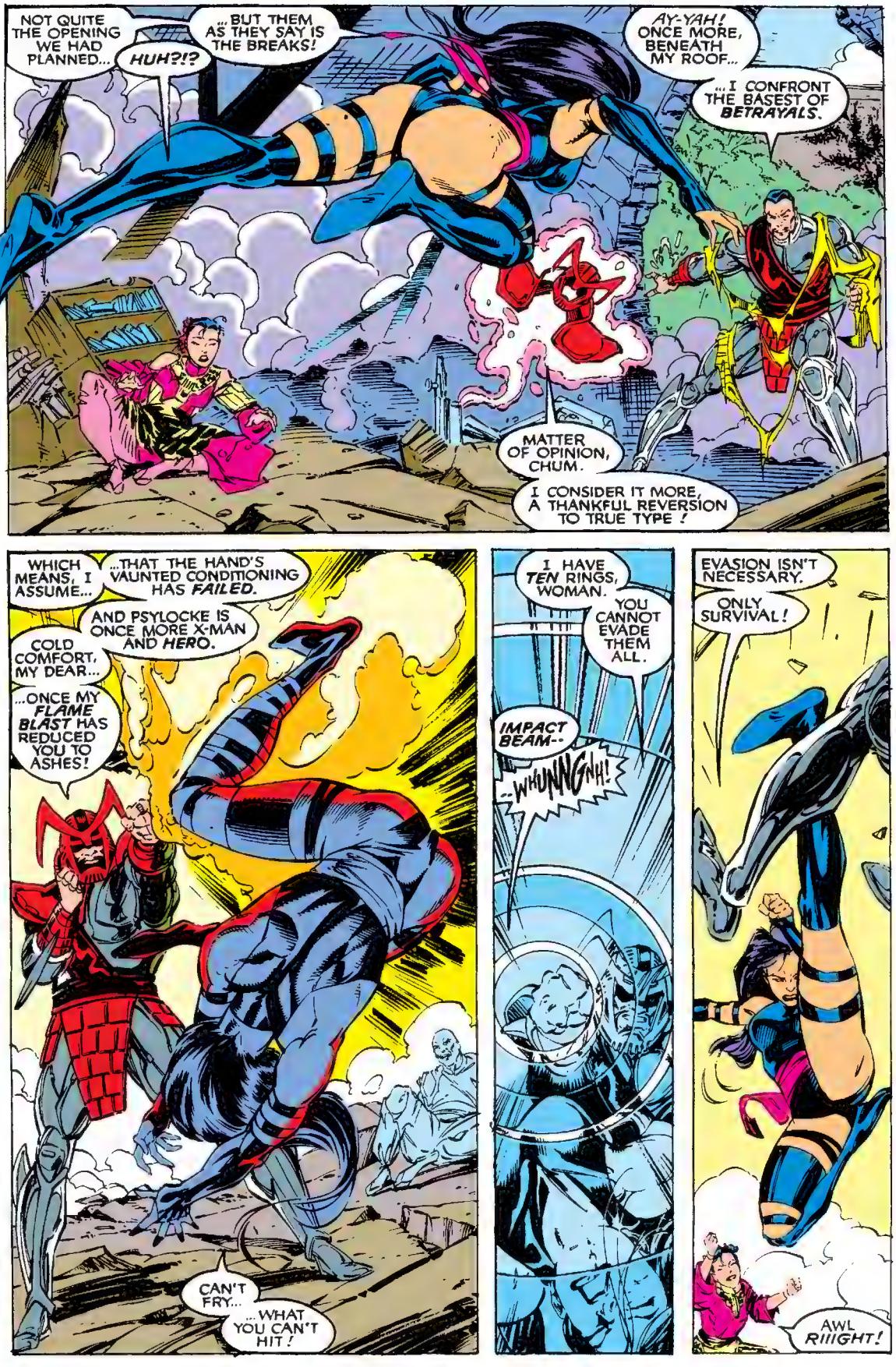
YOU'VE HAD YOUR FUN, NICKY.
NOW IT'S MY TURN.
NO! THE PREY IS MINE!
AND SO TOO, THE HONOR...
...OF THE KILL!
WORKS FOR ME, DARLIN'!
MY APOLOGIES, LORD MANDARIN, FOR THIS UNSEEMLY INTRUSION.
IS THERE SOME PROBLEM, PSYLOCKE?
NOT ANY LONGER.
WOLVERINE ATTEMPTED AN ESCAPE.
I REGRET HE WILL BE OF NO FURTHER USE...
...EITHER TO YOU, OR THE HAND.
SUCH IS THE WILL OF THE GODS.
AND NOT ENTIRELY UNEXPECTED.
DISPOSE OF THE REMAINS, IF YOU PLEASE.
NO.

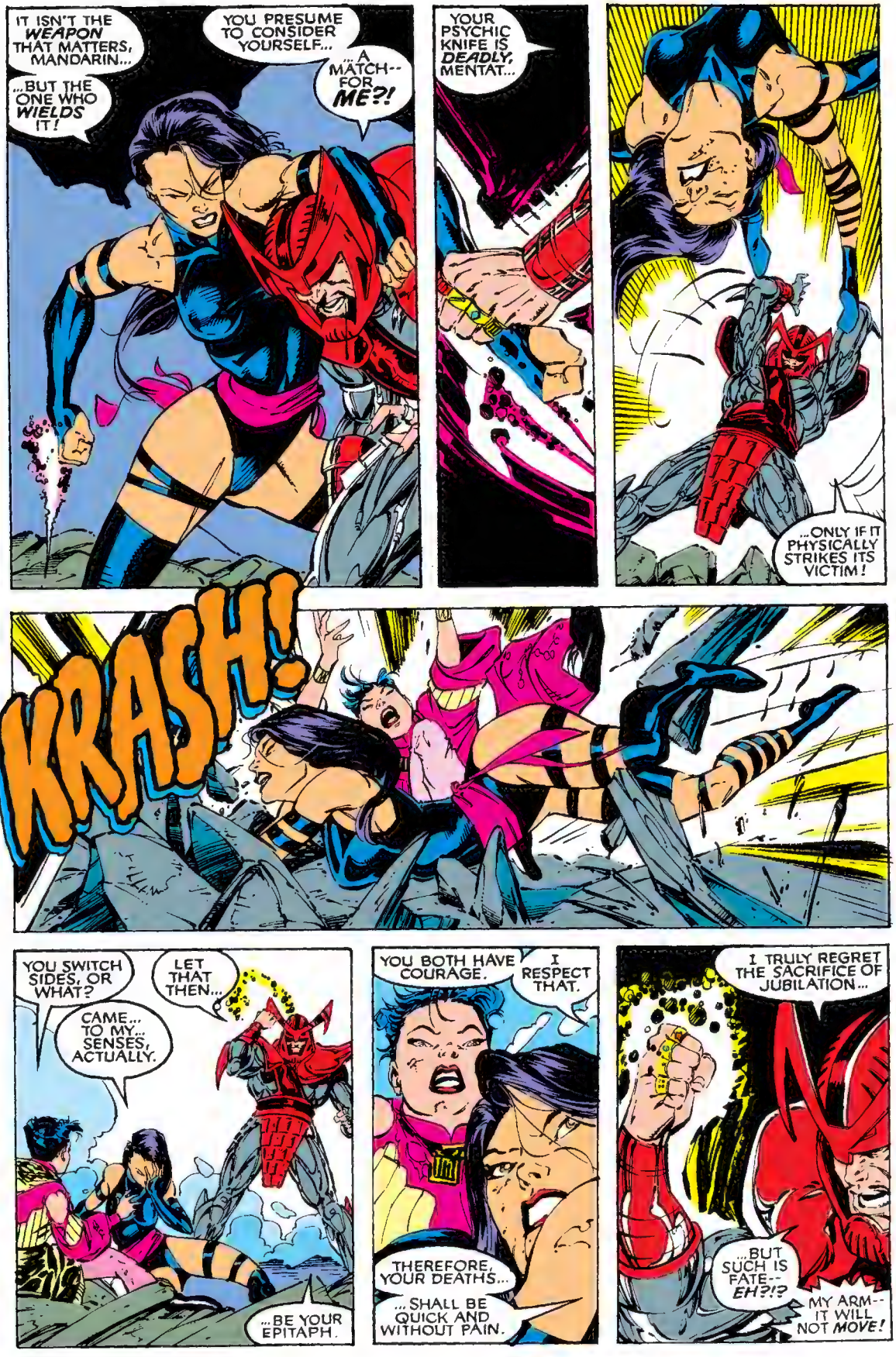

NO!
NO!
BOOM!

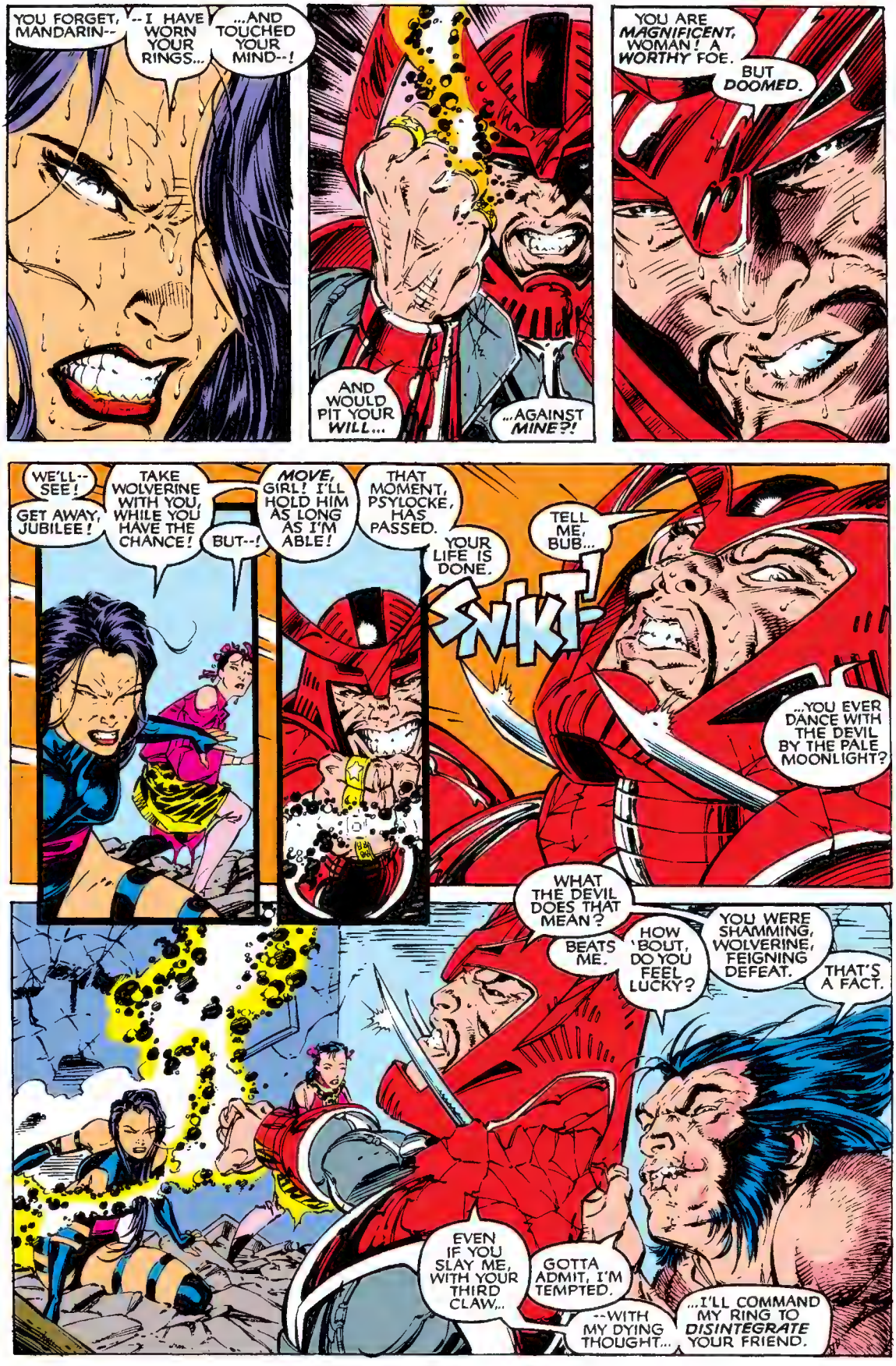
BOOM!

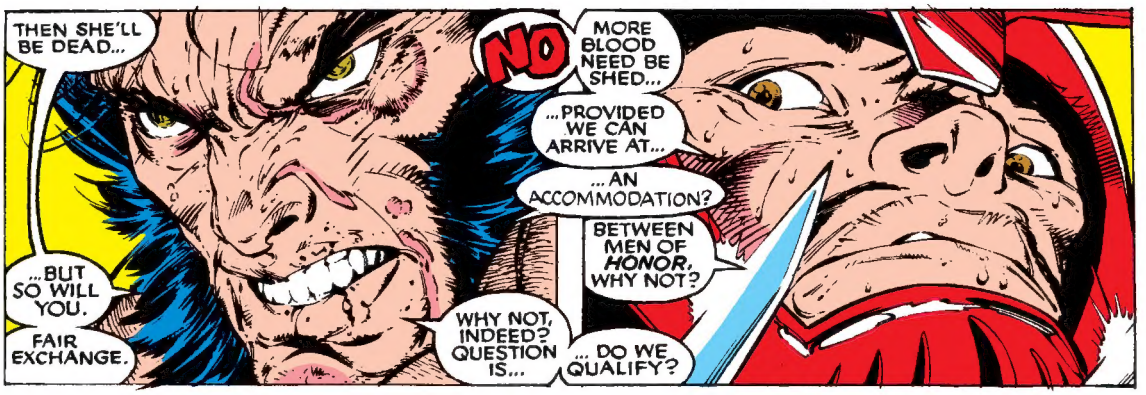

BOOM!
?
!

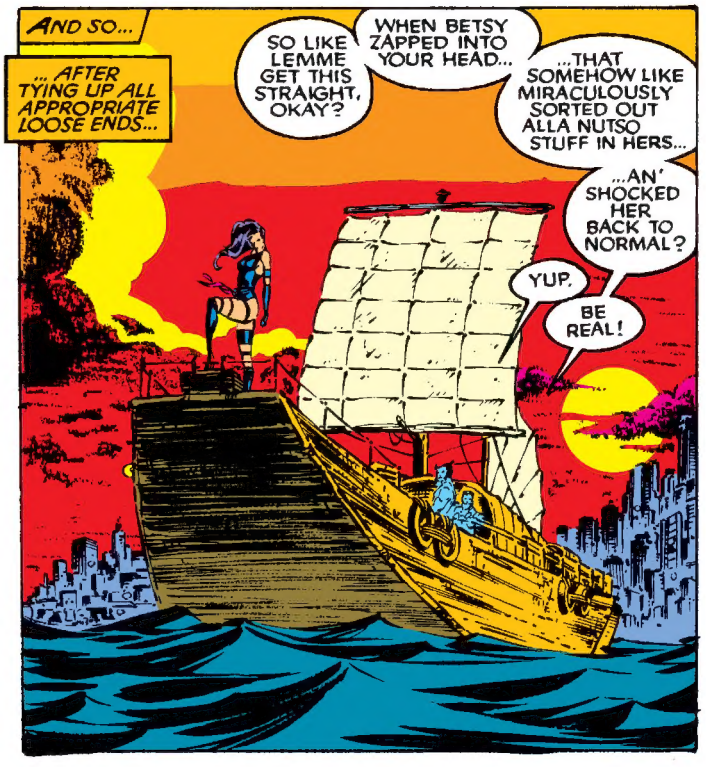

HOLY MOLEY!
WHERE'D THAT COME FROM?!
AN' LIKE-- DO I EVER WANT TO DO IT AGAIN?!!

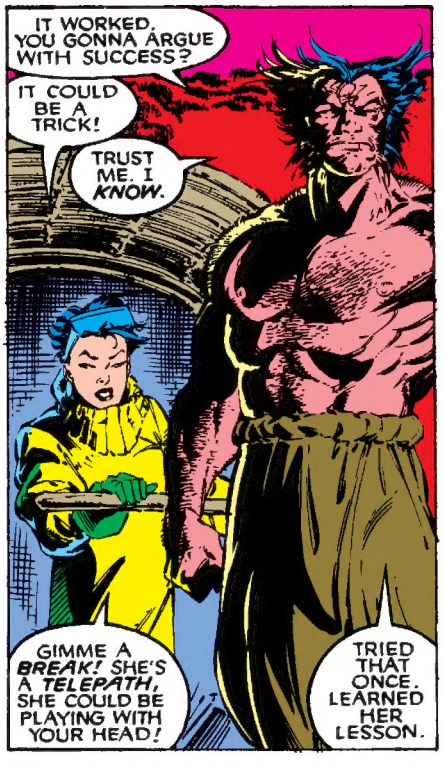

NOT QUITE THE OPENING WE HAD PLANNED...
HUH?!?
...BUT THEM AS THEY SAY IS THE BREAKS!
AY-YAH! ONCE MORE, BENEATH MY ROOF...
...I CONFRONT THE BASEST OF BETRAYALS.
MATTER OF OPINION, CHUM.
I CONSIDER IT MORE, A THANKFUL REVERSION TO TRUE TYPE!
WHICH MEANS, I ASSUME...
...THAT THE HAND'S VAUNTED CONDITIONING HAS FAILED.
AND PSYLOCKE IS ONCE MORE X-MAN AND HERO.
COLD COMFORT, MY DEAR...
...ONCE MY FLAME BLAST HAS REDUCED YOU TO ASHES!
CAN'T FRY...
...WHAT YOU CAN'T HIT!
I HAVE TEN RINGS, WOMAN.
YOU CANNOT EVADE THEM ALL.
IMPACT BEAM--
--WHUNNGNH!
EVASION ISN'T NECESSARY.
ONLY SURVIVAL!
AWL RIIIGHT!

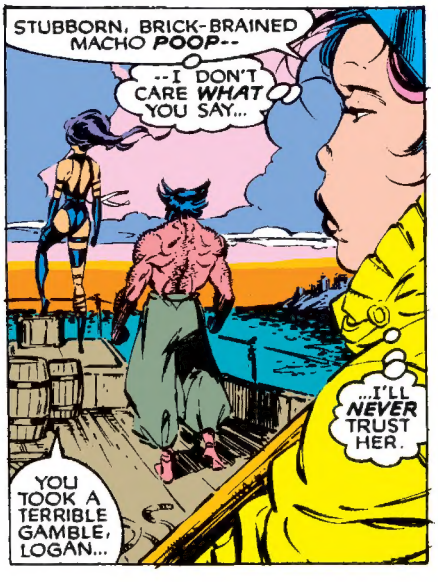

IT ISN'T THE WEAPON THAT MATTERS, MANDARIN...
...BUT THE ONE WHO WIELDS IT!
YOU PRESUME TO CONSIDER YOURSELF...
...A MATCH-- FOR ME?!
YOUR PSYCHIC KNIFE IS DEADLY, MENTAT...
...ONLY IF IT PHYSICALLY STRIKES ITS VICTIM!
KRASH!
YOU SWITCH SIDES, OR WHAT?
LET THAT THEN...
CAME... TO MY... SENSES, ACTUALLY.
...BE YOUR EPITAPH.
YOU BOTH HAVE COURAGE.
I RESPECT THAT.
THEREFORE, YOUR DEATHS...
...SHALL BE QUICK AND WITHOUT PAIN.
I TRULY REGRET THE SACRIFICE OF JUBILATION...
...BUT SUCH IS FATE-- EH?!?
MY ARM-- IT WILL NOT MOVE!

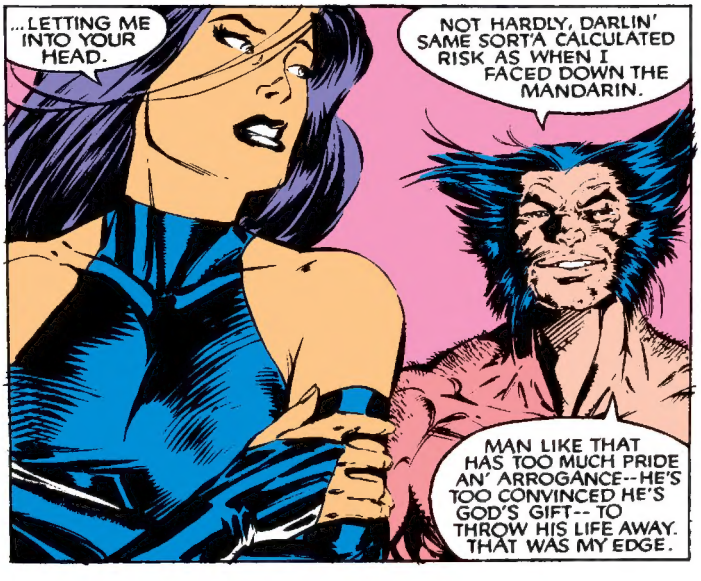

YOU FORGET, MANDARIN--
--I HAVE WORN YOUR RINGS...
...AND TOUCHED YOUR MIND--!
AND WOULD PIT YOUR WILL...
...AGAINST MINE?!
YOU ARE MAGNIFICENT, WOMAN! A WORTHY FOE.
BUT DOOMED.
WE'LL--SEE!
GET AWAY, JUBILEE!
TAKE WOLVERINE WITH YOU, WHILE YOU HAVE THE CHANCE!
BUT--!
MOVE, GIRL! I'LL HOLD HIM AS LONG AS I'M ABLE!
THAT MOMENT, PSYLOCKE, HAS PASSED.
YOUR LIFE IS DONE.
SNIK!
TELL ME, BUB...
...YOU EVER DANCE WITH THE DEVIL BY THE PALE MOONLIGHT?
WHAT THE DEVIL DOES THAT MEAN?
BEATS ME.
HOW 'BOUT, DO YOU FEEL LUCKY?
YOU WERE SHAMMING, WOLVERINE, FEIGNING DEFEAT.
THAT'S A FACT.
EVEN IF YOU SLAY ME, WITH YOUR THIRD CLAW...
GOTTA ADMIT, I'M TEMPTED.
--WITH MY DYING THOUGHT...
...I'LL COMMAND MY RING TO DISINTEGRATE YOUR FRIEND.

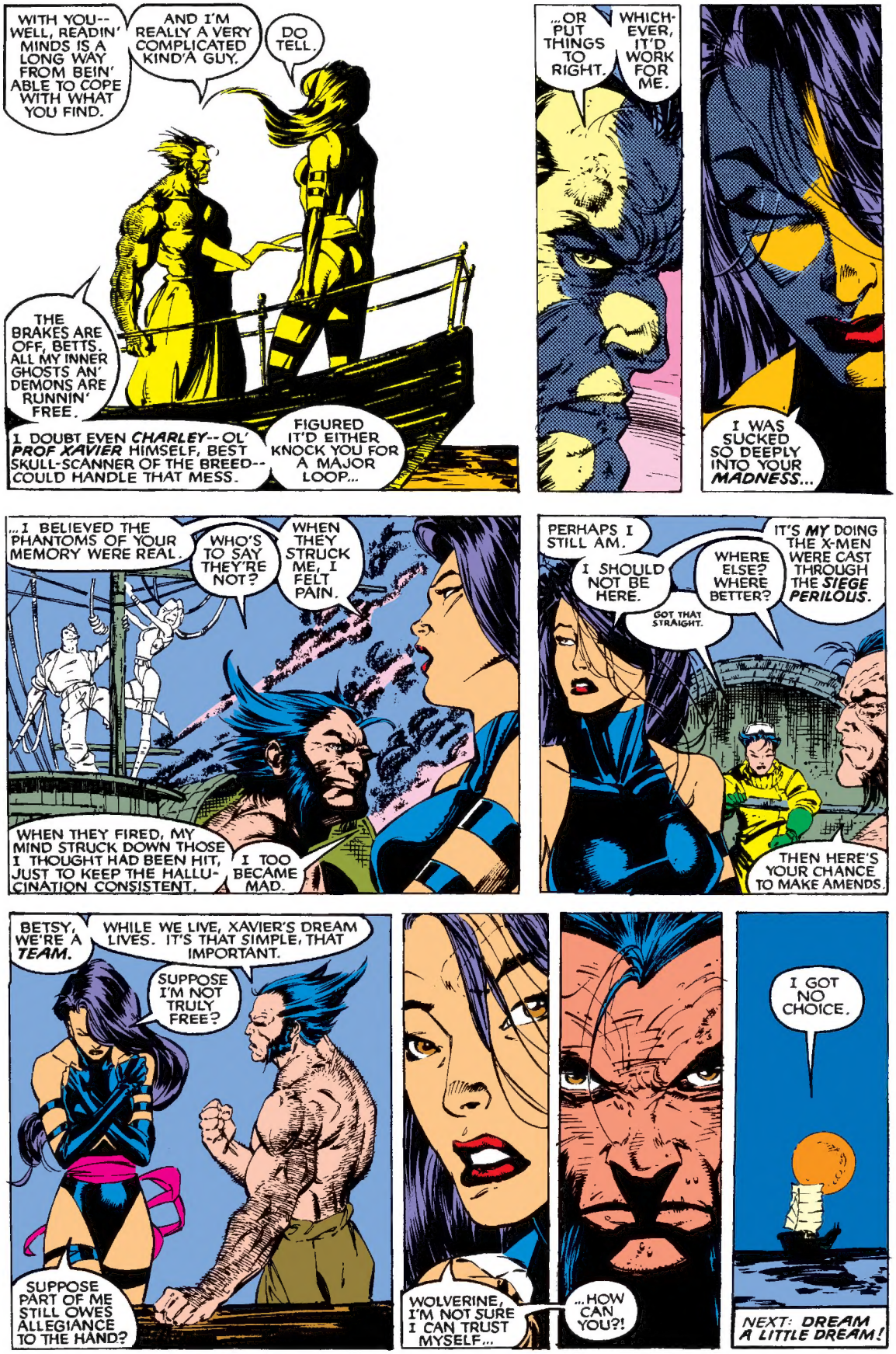

THEN SHE'LL BE DEAD...
NO
MORE BLOOD NEED BE SHED...
...PROVIDED WE CAN ARRIVE AT...
...AN ACCOMMODATION?
BETWEEN MEN OF HONOR, WHY NOT?
WHY NOT, INDEED? QUESTION IS...
... DO WE QUALIFY?
...BUT SO WILL YOU.
FAIR EXCHANGE.


AND SO...
...AFTER TYING UP ALL APPROPRIATE LOOSE ENDS...
SO LIKE LEMME GET THIS STRAIGHT, OKAY?
WHEN BETSY ZAPPED INTO YOUR HEAD...
...THAT SOMEHOW LIKE MIRACULOUSLY SORTED OUT ALLA NUTSO STUFF IN HERS...
...AN' SHOCKED HER BACK TO NORMAL?
YUP.
BE REAL!

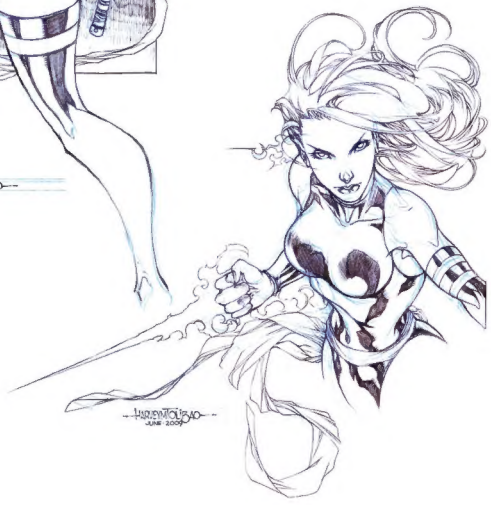

IT WORKED. YOU GONNA ARGUE WITH SUCCESS?
IT COULD BE A TRICK!
TRUST ME. I KNOW.
GIMME A BREAK! SHE'S A TELEPATH, SHE COULD BE PLAYING WITH YOUR HEAD!
TRIED THAT ONCE. LEARNED HER LESSON.


STUBBORN, BRICK-BRAINED MACHO POOP--
--I DON'T CARE WHAT YOU SAY...
...I'LL NEVER TRUST HER.
YOU TOOK A TERRIBLE GAMBLE, LOGAN...


...LETTING ME INTO YOUR HEAD.
NOT HARDLY, DARLIN' SAME SORT'A CALCULATED RISK AS WHEN I FACED DOWN THE MANDARIN.
MAN LIKE THAT HAS TOO MUCH PRIDE AN' ARROGANCE--HE'S TOO CONVINCED HE'S GOD'S GIFT-- TO THROW HIS LIFE AWAY. THAT WAS MY EDGE.


WITH YOU-- WELL, READIN' MINDS IS A LONG WAY FROM BEIN' ABLE TO COPE WITH WHAT YOU FIND.
AND I'M REALLY A VERY COMPLICATED KIND'A GUY.
DO TELL.
THE BRAKES ARE OFF, BETTS. ALL MY INNER GHOSTS AN' DEMONS ARE RUNNIN' FREE.
I DOUBT EVEN CHARLEY--OL' PROF XAVIER HIMSELF, BEST SKULL-SCANNER OF THE BREED--COULD HANDLE THAT MESS.
FIGURED IT'D EITHER KNOCK YOU FOR A MAJOR LOOP...
...OR PUT THINGS TO RIGHT.
WHICH-EVER, IT'D WORK FOR ME.
I WAS SUCKED SO DEEPLY INTO YOUR MADNESS...
...I BELIEVED THE PHANTOMS OF YOUR MEMORY WERE REAL.
WHO'S TO SAY THEY'RE NOT?
WHEN THEY STRUCK ME, I FELT PAIN.
WHEN THEY FIRED, MY MIND STRUCK DOWN THOSE I THOUGHT HAD BEEN HIT, JUST TO KEEP THE HALLU-CINATION CONSISTENT.
I TOO BECAME MAD.
PERHAPS I STILL AM.
I SHOULD NOT BE HERE.
GOT THAT STRAIGHT.
WHERE ELSE? WHERE BETTER?
IT'S MY DOING THE X-MEN WERE CAST THROUGH THE SIEGE PERILOUS.
THEN HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO MAKE AMENDS.
BETSY, WE'RE A TEAM.
WHILE WE LIVE, XAVIER'S DREAM LIVES. IT'S THAT SIMPLE, THAT IMPORTANT.
SUPPOSE I'M NOT TRULY FREE?
SUPPOSE PART OF ME STILL OWES ALLEGIANCE TO THE HAND?
WOLVERINE, I'M NOT SURE I CAN TRUST MYSELF...
...HOW CAN YOU?!
I GOT NO CHOICE.
NEXT: DREAM A LITTLE DREAM!

CHARACTER SKETCHES
BY HARVEY TOLIBAO



PSYLOCKE HAS RETURNED TO THE X-MEN!

Following the defeat of Madelyne Pryor and her Sisterhood, Psylocke travels to Japan to re-inter her former body in its proper resting place. But when a swarm of Hand ninjas attack Psylocke and do the unspeakable under orders from Matsu'o Tsurayaba — the assassin originally responsible for transplanting Psylocke's mind into the body of an Asian ninja — Psylocke determines that Matsu'o is one loose end that can no longer be left unresolved. It's a tale of carnage and revenge, brought to you by superstars Chris Yost (*X-Force*) and Harvey Tolibao (*Avengers: The Initiative*)!

Collecting *Psylocke #1-4* — plus Betty Braddock's transformation by Tsurayaba into the assassin Lady Mandarin, from *Uncanny X-Men #256-258* (1989-90) by Chris Claremont and Jim Lee!